**Summary**

Compassionate and dedicated educator pursuing a Master of Arts in Multicategory Special Education, with a strong commitment to fostering inclusive and supportive learning environments. Possesses a solid understanding of pedagogical methods, student assessment, and individualized instruction. Eager to apply advanced knowledge of special education practices to help diverse learners achieve their full potential.

**Education**

**Master of Arts in Multicategory Special Education** | Expected May 2026

Governors State University | University Park, IL

* *Relevant Coursework:* Assessment and Diagnosis of Diverse Learners, Instructional Methods for Students with Disabilities, Individualized Education Program (IEP) Development, Classroom and Behavior Management, Collaboration with Families and Professionals

**Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education** | May 2024

Governors State University | University Park, IL

* *Relevant Coursework:* Child and Adolescent Development, Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum, Inclusive Teaching Practices

**Experience**

**Student Teacher** | August 2024 – Present

Central Elementary School | Homewood, IL

* Collaborated with a Special Education teacher to plan and deliver differentiated lessons for a self-contained 3rd-grade classroom.
* Implemented behavior intervention plans and collected data to monitor student progress.
* Co-facilitated IEP meetings and contributed to the development of new student goals.

**Paraprofessional** | June 2024 – August 2024

Park Forest-Chicago Heights School District | Park Forest, IL

* Provided one-on-one and small group support to students with special needs in a summer school setting.
* Aided in the modification of curriculum materials to meet student accommodations and learning styles.

**After-School Program Leader** | January 2024 – May 2024

Local YMCA | University Park, IL

* Led a group of 15 children, ages 6-11, in academic support activities and structured recreational play.
* Maintained a safe and organized environment, implementing positive behavior management strategies.

**Projects**

**M.A. Capstone Project: Developing an Inclusive Literacy Unit** | May 2026

Governors State University | University Park, IL

* Designed a three-week literacy unit for a multi-age special education classroom, incorporating Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles.
* Created a variety of formative and summative assessments to track progress and adjust instruction based on student data.

**Case Study: Functional Behavior Assessment** | November 2025

Governors State University | University Park, IL

* Conducted a functional behavior assessment on a fictional student to identify triggers and functions of a challenging behavior.
* Developed a comprehensive behavior intervention plan with specific, measurable goals and strategies.

**Awards & Certificates**

* **Illinois Professional Educator License (PEL)** with LBS1 Endorsement: Expected May 2026
* **Dean's List:** Governors State University (Fall 2023, Spring 2024)

**Volunteer Work**

**Camp Counselor** | Summer 2023

Special Needs Summer Camp | Joliet, IL

* Supported campers with a range of physical and cognitive disabilities in daily activities, crafts, and games.
* Fostered an environment of inclusion and positive peer interaction.

**Reading Buddy** | September 2022 – May 2023

University Park Elementary School | University Park, IL

* Paired with a 2nd-grade student to provide weekly reading support and practice.
* Helped the student improve their reading fluency and confidence.

**Skills**

* **Special Education:** Differentiated Instruction, IEP Development, Behavior Intervention Plans, Functional Behavior Assessment, Inclusive Teaching, Universal Design for Learning (UDL)
* **Assessment & Curriculum:** Formative and Summative Assessment, Data-Driven Instruction, Curriculum Adaptation, Progress Monitoring
* **Technology:** Learning Management Systems (Canvas, Seesaw), Google Workspace for Education, Assistive Technology
* **Interpersonal:** Parent-Teacher Communication, Interdisciplinary Team Collaboration, Empathy, Problem-Solving