Woodrow Wilson STEM + Special Education Dual Certification  
Indianapolis Urban Teacher Residency (IUTR) Option

Federal law – the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act - requires that special education services be provided for students with disabilities from preschool through high school. Teachers must be licensed to provide special education services. In Indiana, teachers are licensed to teach students with “mild intervention” or “intense intervention” needs (according to the level of support students need). This program offers certification in mild intervention.

All Indiana public schools provide special education services in order to meet the individual needs of children with disabilities. Nationally, and within Indiana, there is a shortage of special education teachers to meet existing needs. To respond to the growing need for highly qualified and innovative special education teachers, the Woodrow Wilson Indiana Teaching Fellowship program at IUPUI is expanding our program to include a STEM + Special Education Dual Certification Option for teacher candidates who would like to have both areas of expertise.

The Woodrow Wilson STEM + Special Education Curriculum:  
All Woodrow Wilson Fellows at IUPUI follow a course plan that includes STEM education coursework towards a 36 credit hour MS degree (MS.Ed., MS Math, or MS Engineering Technology Education), plus student teaching 4 days per week throughout the fall and spring semesters. Students who accept the WW IUTR Dual Certification Option will, in addition, take coursework needed to complete the requirements for Special Education Certification (Mild Intervention), and will have the opportunity to work closely with a Special Education mentor teacher in addition to their STEM classroom mentor teacher. This Dual Certification option is modeled after the successful Urban Teacher Residency Models used in Chicago, Boston, Denver and other urban centers across the USA, with funding provided by the US Department of Education. The additional stipend of $5,000 is provided to offset the cost of taking the additional coursework, and in addition, health insurance is provided to the Fellow at no cost. Given the challenging workload of courses and student teaching, much of the special education coursework is offered in a hybrid format with both online components as well as requirements integrated into the regular Monday coursework.

Woodrow Wilson WW IUTR Dual Certification Fellows will complete all coursework required for STEM certification and initial teacher licensure one year after the program begins. Additional coursework completes the Special Education Certification in the first in-service year of teaching, plus all coursework needed for the MS Degree, awarded in May 2016

If you are interested in this unique option, please contact Kathy Marrs at kmarrs@iupui.edu. We will have additional information about coursework requirements, and the opportunity to talk with Special Education faculty, at our orientation date in June.