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# Physical/Health Disabilities Licensure Program

## P/HD Disabilities license recognized by the State of Minnesota

Physical/Health Disabilities is a Special Education license identified by the State of Minnesota. MSU Moorhead offers the program at the graduate level as an add-on to an existing Minnesota Special Education teaching license. Transcript analysis determines the coursework needed to complete the licensure requirements with online courses offered.

### Tuition Support for P/HD Licensure Candidates

The MN Low Incidence Projects has funds available to partially support students pursuing special education licensure in Physical/Health Disabilities (P/HD). These funds are made possible with a grant from the Minnesota Department of Education. The intent of this tuition support program is to increase the number of available teachers licensed in P/HD throughout MN. The expectations that teachers who benefit from this tuition support would then pursue P/HD licensure upon completion of course requirements, and actively pursue and/or be available for employment in this capacity.

An application process is required to obtain partial tuition support. Additional information and an online application is available at <http://mnlowincidenceprojects.org/ts.html>



Please visit [mnstate.edu/graduate](http://mnstate.edu/graduate)  
for more information.



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## Why is there a need for Physical/Health Disabilities (P/HD) Teachers?

The special education category “Physically Impaired” (PI) is considered to be a low incidence disability area. Children and youth with physical impairments typically make up about 1.3% of the total population of students with disabilities who receive special education services.

A physical impairment may be present from birth or acquired later, and may be progressive or non-progressive. A wide range of conditions may result in a physical impairment.



**MSUM is the only institution in the state of Minnesota offering a P/HD program.**

## What is the role of the P/HD Teacher?

- ▶ The Physical/Health Disabilities (P/HD) teacher is a required member of the Individualized Education Program (IEP) team and participates in educational planning and conducting evaluations for students with physical impairments from birth to age 21. The P/HD teacher may also be asked to provide consultation and support to students with chronic health conditions, although other educators in the school setting may also be qualified to provide these services under the category of Other Health Disabilities (OHD).
- ▶ The P/HD teacher often serves in an itinerant role and typically provides indirect/consultative services to address educational accommodations, adaptations, and instructional strategies unique to a student’s physical impairment.

### Other responsibilities include:

- ▶ Assisting the team in developing goals and objectives; curriculum modifications; and accommodations to meet the educational needs of the student, as well as utilizing assistive technology to ensure access to curriculum and materials.
- ▶ Providing disability-specific in-service training for staff or students.



## Only institution in the state offering P/HD program

MSU Moorhead is the only higher education institution in the State of Minnesota offering the Physical/Health Disabilities Licensure Program.

### Enrollment in the University includes:

- ▶ **Master of Science Degree in Special Education** — *this option allows you to apply the licensure coursework to a Master’s degree.*
- ▶ **Graduate Licensure – Physical/Health Disabilities** — *this option provides the opportunity to enroll in coursework to pursue licensure only.*

\* Information regarding graduate programming at MSUM can be found at [mnstate.edu/graduate](http://mnstate.edu/graduate).