

Cost and Benefits

The cost for this one-year program is **\$1,650**, which includes all tuition and instructor fees, books, materials, and supplies; all meals/snacks while attending onsite instruction (ten meals); membership into GAEL and both the National and the Georgia Council of Administrators of Special Education and the national Council of Exceptional Children; registration fees for the Fall G-CASE Conference and the Spring G-CASE Legal Forum; and administrative expenses. The school system will also agree to pay mileage, hotel, and food costs not covered by the Academy to the attending teacher, as well as the cost of a substitute teacher for eight (8) school days spread out over the year, ending before statewide testing begins.

Curriculum

The curriculum is based upon the *Administrator of Special Education Advanced Leadership Standards* set forth by the national Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE):

- Vision, Mission, & Direction Setting
- Policy Implementation, Legal & Ethical Practice of Special Education Programs and Services
- Organizational Leadership & Management for Special Education
- Program Oversight, Improvement, & Instructional Leadership for Special Education
- Human and Fiscal Resource Management for Special Education Programs & Services
- Collaboration & Communication with Special Education Stakeholders
- Equity & Cultural Responsiveness

Instructors will be state and nationally-known professionals in the field of special education.

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A GAEL
Micro-Credentialed Course!

Special Education Administrator Development Academy



To ensure Georgia school districts are equipped with highly trained teachers prepared to assume leadership roles in special education administration.

June 2026—March 2027
Application Packet due April 1, 2026



As an affiliate of the Georgia Association of Educational Leaders (GAEL), the Georgia Council of Administrators of Special Education (G-CASE), recognizes the statewide concern that there is a shortage of educators specifically trained to administer/direct special education programs in school districts across Georgia. Based on the belief that the [special education teachers of today are the special education leaders of tomorrow](#), the G-CASE-sponsored Special Education Administrator Development Academy (Special Education ADA) prepares the leaders of tomorrow to step into administrative positions with a strong foundation in the components related to leadership and administration for special education programs.

The Ideal Candidate

The ideal candidate for the Special Education Administrator Development Academy is a proven teacher leader with five or more years of experience as a special education teacher who is identified by his/her principal, special education director, and/or superintendent and aspires to move into an administrative position within the field of special education. The next group for the Special Education Administrator Development Academy will consist of no more than forty (40) special education teachers who are proven teacher leaders, are endorsed by their principal, special education director, and/or superintendent; and who aspire to move into an administrative position within the field of special education. Members of Cohort 3 will be selected through a rigorous application process. Interested parties may self-nominate or be nominated by a school or district administrator. Each applicant will complete an application packet to be submitted along with a personal narrative and letters of support from their Special Education Director and Principal.

2026-2027 Professional Learning Schedule

The 2026-2027 Professional Learning schedule will take place from **June 2026 to March 2027** and will involve over 55 clock hours of onsite training over ten days (with two of the ten days in the summer) spread out over the school year:

June 2026 Kick-off in centrally-located Houston County with two days of Professional Learning

September 2026 1 day of Professional Learning in Houston County

November 2026 Attendance at G-CASE Fall Conference with additional, specialized Professional Learning taking place during concurrent sessions.

January 2027 1 day of Professional Learning in Houston County

March 2027 Attendance at G-CASE Special Education Legal Conference with additional, specialized Professional Learning taking place during concurrent sessions.



SPECIAL EDUCATION
Administrator Development Academy