

---

**Jennifer A. Graves** (2015). Director for The Union EDGE Program. B.S., Union University; M.S., University of Memphis.

**Melinda Jackson** (2019). Assistant Director for The Union EDGE Program. B.A., Union University; M.Ed., Grand Canyon University

The Union EDGE is a comprehensive program for highly motivated (and/or developmentally disabled) students ages 16-26 who have completed high school. The Union EDGE—Employment training, Daily Living Skills, Godly Focus, Educational enrichment—is a residential or non-residential program designed to aid in career development skills. Students will audit college courses, participate in on-campus and off-campus trips, and experience the full range of college life services.

EDGE students register for 12 or more semester hours each semester, 6 semester hours of Life Skills Courses and 6 or more semester hours of Union course audits.

**Course Audits:** Union EDGE students enroll in two or more regular college courses each semester as course audits for credit toward a certificate – minimum of 48 credit hours to graduate. The EDGE program director works with faculty to develop an education plan for each student.

**Life Skills Courses:** Students enroll in two life skills courses

year, students are partnered with an off-campus externship.

**Mentorship:** Union EDGE Students are partnered with trained upperclassmen student mentors. Student mentors help guide EDGE program students through the Student Life experience by inviting them to lunch, to student programming and athletic events, and other residence life activities.

EDGE Program participants will be reassessed each year for progress using an assessment tool to track their growth on social, behavioral, and vocational tasks as well as academic standing.



