

Timeline

1983

3-year Diploma of Applied Science (Developmental Disabilities) commenced at South Australian College of Advanced Education (SACAE). This new qualification was developed to meet the change towards de-institutionalisation, a shift away from the 'medical model' and produce comprehensive disability professionals

1990

SACAE amalgamated with Flinders University. Diploma changed to the Bachelor of Applied Science (Developmental Disabilities)

1993

Name changed to Bachelor of Applied Science (Disability Studies)

1994

Honours year introduced

2012

BDCR name changed to Bachelor of Disability and Developmental Education (BDDE)

2010

Double degrees in Bachelor of Education and Special Education/Bachelor of Disability Studies commenced at Flinders University (now discontinued)

2007

Undergraduate degree changed to 4-year Bachelor of Disability and Community Rehabilitation (BDCR). Included the option to include a Major in Rehabilitation Counselling (now discontinued)

1995

Master of Disability Studies commenced
Flinders University saw the enrolment of their first PhD students in Disability Studies

2019

BDDE and Master of Disability Policy and Practice degrees in disability become first accredited University courses with DEAI

2023

Name and curriculum of accredited Masters course changed to Master of Disability Practice and Leadership (Developmental Education)

2024

Masters of Autism and Neurodivergent Studies, University of Wollongong achieves accreditation with DEAI

Beyond

DEA plan to include more entry pathways to practising membership in the future.