EDUCATION SPECIALIST CREDENTIAL PROGRAMS

Special Education

The curriculum meets the licensing requirements of the Commission on Teacher Credentialing. Programs are organized in a two-tiered system: the Preliminary and the Clear Education Specialist.

Preliminary Education Specialist programs include requirements in a general education component, core requirements including health education and CPR, plus specialization courses including student teaching. The education specialist credentials meet standards for special education Birth to Grade 12 teachers. The Preliminary credential allows graduates to teach in the area of specialization for five years.

The Clear Education Specialist program includes core requirements and advanced curricular content for each specialization area. The Clear Credential program must be completed within five years of the award of the Preliminary education specialist credential.

Admission Procedures

Admission to post-baccalaureate programs is based on the evaluation of applications to both the department and to the University. A minimum 3.0 GPA is required for admission to credential programs and must be maintained for continuation in the program. All applicants for the Education Specialist Credentials are also required to apply at the same time to the Master of Arts Degree in Special Education. If a prospective applicant already has a master’s degree, they may petition to be exempt from this requirement. Applications are available from the:

Graduate College of Education Credential and Graduate Services Center
Burk Hall 244
(415) 405–3594
Email: credinfo@sfsu.edu
or
Department of Special Education
(415) 338–1161
Email: spedcd@sfsu.edu
Website: spedcd.sfsu.edu (http://spedcd.sfsu.edu).

Check for application deadlines and requirements.

Preliminary education specialist credential programs are approved for the following areas:

- Early Childhood Special Education (Birth to pre–K only) – mild to moderate and moderate to severe disabilities and traumatic brain injury.
- Mild/Moderate Disabilities (K–12, adults up to 22 years) – specific learning disabilities, autism spectrum disorder, mild to moderate intellectual disabilities, other health impairment, and emotional disturbance.
- Moderate/Severe Disabilities (K–12, adults up to 22 years) – autism spectrum disorder, mild to moderate intellectual disabilities, deaf-blindness, emotional disturbance, and multiple disabilities.
- Visual Impairments (Birth–22 years) – blind, visually impaired, deaf-blind, and autism spectrum disorder.
- Early Childhood Special Education Certificate – supplemental to Education Specialist Credentials and approved by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (if not earning separate Early Childhood Special Education Credential, any specialist credential can add on this certificate to expand authorization for Mild/Moderate Disabilities, Moderate/Severe Disabilities, Visual Impairments, or for professional growth).

For Orientation and Mobility specialization and Speech-Language Pathology services see Other Services Credentials (bulletin.sfsu.edu/colleges/education/credentials/other-services).

Substitution of Requirements

Substitutions of course and field placement requirements may be granted when candidates have prior transcript credit and when the required skill, knowledge, and performance competencies have been mastered and verified. The department chair and faculty in the area of specialization review and approve requests for course substitutions.

Preliminary Education Specialist Credential

Program requirements include the following:

- A baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university.
- Satisfy Subject Matter Competency Requirement: Successful passage of the CSET Multiple Subjects Test or by completing a subject matter program prior to admission. May be satisfied by completing the subject matter requirements outlined for the Multiple Subject or Single Subject Credentials. Required for all education specialist areas except Early Childhood Special Education.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the principles of the United States Constitution. Applicants may satisfy the U.S. Constitution requirement either by course work or examination.
- Satisfy Basic Skills Requirement: successful passage of the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST), CSET Multiple Subjects Test plus Writing Skills Test, OR an approved out-of-state basic skills exam (required for admission). Refer to the Department application for additional ways of satisfying the Basic Skills Requirement using the ELM/ EPT, SAT, and/or ACT scores.
- Complete Certificate of Clearance: Fingerprint Clearance via LiveScan and Commission on Teacher Credentialing online application (required for admission).
- Complete a Certificate of Clearance (fingerprinting) prior to fieldwork (required for admission).
- Pass the Reading Instruction Competence Assessment (R.I.C.A.) examination. RICA is required for all education specialist areas, except Early Childhood Special Education, prior to award of Credential.
- Apply for student teaching, with annual deadlines of February 28 for fall enrollment and September 28 for spring enrollment.
- Submit a Credential Approved Program (CAP) prior to student teaching reflecting all course work completed or to be completed and non-curricular requirements (submitted with the application for student teaching).
- Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR): must cover infant, child and adult CPR; online course not acceptable.
or H ED 635  Secondary School Health
SPED 788  Law, Ethics, and Instructional Planning  3
SPED 801  Development, Diversity, and English Language Learners: Special Education

Health Education courses are offered through the College of Extended Learning. A list of health education courses approved for substitution is available on the department website: spedcd.sfsu.edu/content/forms-0

General Education Requirements (6 Units)
Not required if the student possesses a Multiple Subject or Single Subject Credential, or if pursuing Early Childhood Special Education preliminary credential.

E ED 784  Curriculum and Instruction in Mathematics (CLAD Emphasis)  3
E ED 882  Literacy Instruction in K-12 Classrooms  3
or E ED 708  First and Second Language Development in Early Childhood Education

Early Childhood Special Education (44–56 Units)
Core and General Education

SPED 729  Student Teaching Workshop: Early Childhood Special Education (2 units total)  1
SPED 730  Student Teaching: Special Education (9-18 units total)  9
SPED 737  Infant Intervention  3
SPED 738  Preschool Intervention  3
SPED 747  Physical Disabilities and Sensory Impairments  3
SPED 774  Positive Behavior Support  3
SPED 777  Development and Learning of Young Children with Special Needs  3
SPED 779  Family Systems and Services for Young Children with Disabilities  3
SPED 780  Assessment and Program Evaluation in Early Childhood Special Education Setting  3
SPED 825  Behavior and Instructional Supports: Autism  3
SPED 885  Advanced Topics in Special Education  3

Note: Student teaching requires a one-semester placement with preschool children and a second-semester placement with infant/toddlers.

Mild/Moderate Disabilities (46–48 Units)
Core and General Education 13–15 units

SPED 726  Workshop: Student Teaching Support Sessions for Mild/Moderate Disabilities or Orientation Mobility  3
SPED 730  Student Teaching: Special Education  9
SPED 763  Transition Planning for Students with Disabilities  3
SPED 770  Mild/Moderate Disabilities  3
SPED 772  Assessment, Curriculum, and Instruction  3
SPED 774  Positive Behavior Support  3
SPED 775  Advanced Methods in Mild/Moderate Disabilities  3
SPED 778  Advanced Literacy and Instruction  3
Select one of the following:
SPED 791  Nature of Autism Spectrum Disorders  3
SPED 794  Communication, Socialization and Imagination: Autism  3
SPED 825  Behavior and Instructional Supports: Autism  3

Moderate/Severe Disabilities (52–54 Units)
Core and General Education 15 units

SPED 723  Workshop: Student Teaching Support Sessions for Moderate/Severe Disabilities or Visual Impairments  3
SPED 730  Student Teaching: Special Education  9
SPED 745  Environmental Design for Students with Moderate/Severe Disabilities  3
SPED 747  Physical Disabilities and Sensory Impairments  3
SPED 763  Transition Planning for Students with Disabilities  3
SPED 773  Methods of Assessment and Instruction for Students with Moderate/Severe Disabilities  3
SPED 787  Advanced Assessment and Instruction for Students with Moderate/Severe Disabilities  3

SPED 780  Assessment and Program Evaluation in Early Childhood Special Education Setting  3

SPED 779  Family Systems and Services for Young Children with Disabilities  3

SPED 785  Advanced Topics in Special Education  3

SPED 825  Behavior and Instructional Supports: Autism  3

Note: Student teaching requires a one-semester placement with preschool children and a second-semester placement with infant/toddlers.

Contact the department for more information: (415) 338–1161 or spedcd@sfsu.edu.
Visual Impairments (58–60 Units)

Core and General Education 15 units

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tr>
<td>SPED 655</td>
<td>Basic Orientation and Mobility for Learners with Visual Impairments</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPED 723</td>
<td>Workshop: Student Teaching Support Sessions for Moderate/Severe Disabilities or Visual Impairments</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPED 730</td>
<td>Student Teaching: Special Education</td>
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<td>SPED 735</td>
<td>Technology for Visually Impaired Students</td>
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<td>SPED 749</td>
<td>Medical, Educational, and Rehabilitative Implications of Visual Impairment</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPED 750</td>
<td>Assessment for Learners with Visual Impairments</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPED 751</td>
<td>Instruction for Learners with Visual Impairments</td>
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<td>SPED 752</td>
<td>Issues in Visual Impairment</td>
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<td>SPED 753</td>
<td>Living Skills Assessment and Instruction for Learners with Visual Impairments</td>
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<td>SPED 754</td>
<td>Basic Communication Skills for Learners with Visual Impairments</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPED 757</td>
<td>Visual Impairment: Special Populations</td>
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<td>SPED 758</td>
<td>Advanced Communication Skills for Learners with Visual Impairments</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPED 763</td>
<td>Transition Planning for Students with Disabilities</td>
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Clear Education Specialist Teaching Credential – 6 units

The Clear Education Specialist Teaching Credential at San Francisco State University is a field-based program. Starting in Fall 2010, all students admitted to the Clear Education Specialist Credential enroll in SPED 740 over two consecutive semesters.

Clear Credential Requirements

In addition to SPED 740, students who completed the former Preliminary Level I Education Specialist Credential prior to September 1, 2010, may be advised to take a few additional classes if not previously completed (e.g., SPED 763; SPED 791; SPED 825; and Health Education requirement).

The Clear Education Specialist Credential enables teachers to apply their Preliminary preparation to the demands of professional positions while also gaining advanced skills and knowledge. Requirements include the following:

- Recommendation for the Preliminary Education Specialist program.
- Preparation and completion of a Credential Approved Program reflecting a summary of course work completed and non-curricular requirements associated with the Clear program, including enrollment in SPED 740 over two consecutive semesters.

Guidelines and forms are available at spedcd.sfsu.edu (http://spedcd.sfsu.edu). The website provides all forms and guidelines.