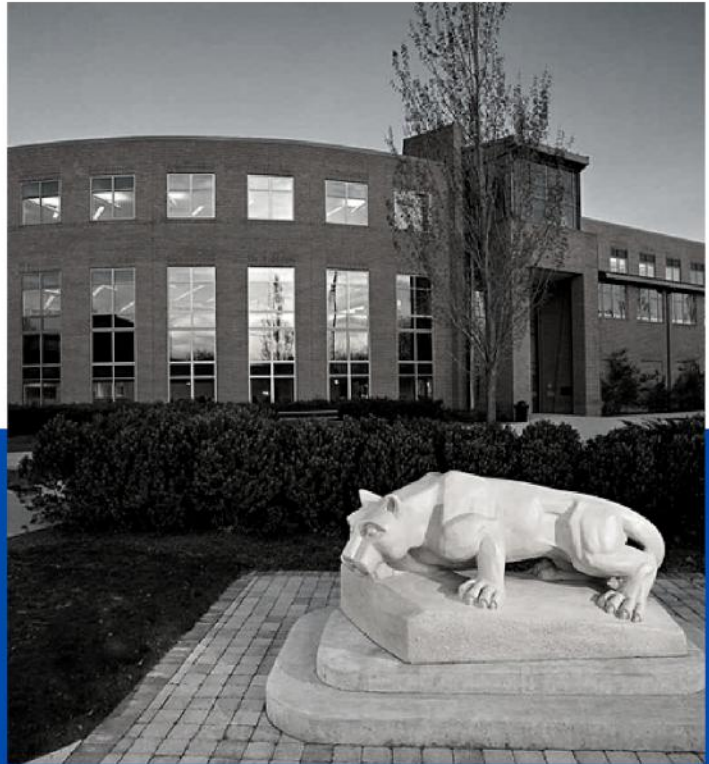




PennState
Harrisburg



SPECIAL EDUCATION PK-12 CERTIFICATION

YOUR JOURNEY STARTS HERE...

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WHAT SPECIAL EDUCATION

CERTIFICATION CAN DO YOU FOR YOU

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RESOURCE LINKS

THE VALUE

Just a few **things you can do** in Special Education that make it an excellent career path.

PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHING

- Special Educator: preschool-graduation (some students continue through age 21)

SECONDARY TRANSITION

- Special Education Transition Specialist or Coordinator: secondary programs in public schools, including charter and cyber charter schools.

PRIVATE SCHOOL TEACHING

- Special Educator: preschool-graduation (some students continue through age 21)

INSTRUCTIONAL COACHING

- Coach students and teachers with instructional practice: preschool-graduation
- Facilitate IEP development

EARLY INTERVENTION TEACHING

- Preschool Early Intervention Educator: children ages 3-5

INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGNING

- Instructional Designer for curriculum: K-12 schools and college programs

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- Special Education Administrator or Supervisor (after teaching 3 years and obtaining a supervisory certification)

SECONDARY EDUCATION ADVISING

- College Advisor for undergraduate students in college programs

PATHWAY #1

PROGRAM OF STUDY



PATHWAY #1

DO YOU?

- ✓ Hold a PDE Instructional I or II Teaching Certificate?
- ✓ Want to obtain Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) Special Education PK-12 Certification?



THIS OPTION...

Is provided for individuals who hold a current PA teaching certificate and want to add Special Education Certification. These individuals have already met PDE general education teaching requirements. These individuals need Special Education coursework, an internship, and passing scores on the certification test to achieve PK-12 Special Education certification. Candidates are evaluated on Penn State Harrisburg's Special Education Internship Framework and the Pennsylvania Statewide Evaluation Form for Student Professional Knowledge and Practice (PDE 430).

PATHWAY #1

4 INFORMATIVE FACTS ABOUT SPECIAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATION COURSES

COURSES
FOLLOW THE
PENN STATE 15
WEEK
SEMESTER

ALL COURSES,
INCLUDING
INTERNSHIP,
ARE 3 CREDITS



CLICK ME TO
VIEW THE PSU
ACADEMIC
CALENDAR

SUMMER
COURSES MEET AT
VARIOUS TIMES
AND MAY BE
REMOTE (WEB)

MOST COURSES
OFFERED IN
HYBRID MODE
(ROTATING WEEKS
OF IN CLASS AND
REMOTE
INSTRUCTION)

PATHWAY #1

WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO DO

to obtain Special Education Certification.

1

SPECIAL EDUCATION COURSEWORK SIX COURSES (18 CREDITS)

- **PSYCH 443:** Treatment and Education of Developmental Disabilities
- **SPLED 404:** Families and Professionals in Special Education
- **SPLED 462:** Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis
- **EDUC 477:** Literacy Instruction & Evidence-based Interventions
- **EDUC 452:** Teaching Writing OR **EDUC 432:** Teaching Writing through Children's Literature
- **SPLED 409C:** Math for Special Populations

PATHWAY #1

WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO DO

to obtain Special Education Certification.

2

CLINICAL EXPERIENCES: INTERNSHIP (3 CREDITS)

- **EDUC 495.001: SPECIAL EDUCATION INTERNSHIP & STUDENT TEACHING - 12 WEEKS**

Individuals teaching in a Special Education position under a PDE Emergency Permit may complete their internship while working in that position.

3

TESTING REQUIREMENTS: PDE CERTIFICATION TESTS

(1) PRAXIS SPECIAL EDUCATION CORE KNOWLEDGE AND APPLICATION #5354

Candidates must take and pass PDE Special education certification tests, then apply for the certificate.



click me to
register for
the Praxis
Test

PATHWAY #2

PROGRAM OF STUDY



PATHWAY #2

DO YOU?

- ✓ Hold a bachelor's degree in any field of study but **do NOT** hold a PDE Instructional I Teaching Certification?
- ✓ Want to obtain Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) Special Education PK-12 Certification?



THIS OPTION...

Is for individuals who do NOT hold a current PA teaching certificate. They will need to take coursework, complete an internship/student teaching, and passing scores on (2) Praxis certification tests. During the intake interview and application process, the candidate's previous education and work experience may be considered in determining the courses they will need to take. Candidates are evaluated on Penn State Harrisburg's Special Education Internship Framework, the Teacher Candidate Effectiveness Evaluation (TCEE), and the Pennsylvania Statewide Evaluation Form for Student Professional Knowledge and Practice (PDE 430). The following courses are the starting point in determining a candidate's program of study.

PATHWAY #2

4 INFORMATIVE FACTS ABOUT SPECIAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATION COURSES

COURSES
FOLLOW THE
PENN STATE 15
WEEK
SEMESTER

ALL COURSES,
INCLUDING
INTERNSHIP,
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AND MAY BE
REMOTE (WEB)

MOST COURSES
OFFERED IN
HYBRID MODE
(ROTATING WEEKS
OF IN CLASS AND
REMOTE
INSTRUCTION)

PATHWAY #2

WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO DO

to obtain Special Education Certification.

1

SPECIAL EDUCATION COURSEWORK SIX COURSES (18 CREDITS)

- **PSYCH 443:** Treatment and Education of Developmental Disabilities
- **SPLED 404:** Families and Professionals in Special Education
- **SPLED 462:** Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis
- **EDUC 477:** Literacy Instruction & Evidence-based Interventions
- **EDUC 452:** Teaching Writing OR **EDUC 432:** Teaching Writing through Children's Literature
- **SPLED 409C:** Math for Special Populations

PATHWAY #2

WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO DO

to obtain Special Education Certification.

FOUNDATIONAL COURSEWORK IN ADAPTATIONS AND ACCOMODATIONS THREE COURSES (9 CREDITS)

- **EDUC 459**: Strategies for Effective Teaching in Inclusive Classrooms
- **EDUC 458**: Behavior Management in Inclusive Classrooms
- **EDUC 466N**: Teaching English as a Second Language

FOUNDATIONAL COURSEWORK IN LEARNING THEORY ONE COURSE (3 CREDITS)

- **EDUC 820**: Learning Theory for the Classroom

PATHWAY #2

WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO DO

to obtain Special Education Certification.

2

CLINICAL EXPERIENCES: INTERNSHIP & STUDENT TEACHING (3 CREDITS)

- **EDUC 495.001: SPECIAL EDUCATION INTERNSHIP & STUDENT TEACHING - 12 WEEKS**

Individuals teaching in a Special Education position under a PDE Emergency Permit may complete their internship while working in that position.

3

TESTING REQUIREMENTS: PDE CERTIFICATION TESTS

(1) PRAXIS FUNDAMENTAL SUBJECTS TEST #5511

**(2) PRAXIS SPECIAL EDUCATION CORE
KNOWLEDGE AND APPLICATION #5354**

Candidates must take and pass PDE Special Education certification tests, then apply for the certificate.

**click me to
register for
the Praxis
Tests**



APPENDIX

- PROGRESSION OF PATHWAYS

#1 AND #2

- CONTACT INFORMATION
- HELPFUL LINKS

PROGRESSION

Inquiry. Application. Acceptance. Enrollment.



01

Meet with Program Coordinator for initial intake

02

Apply to program online, which includes uploading transcripts

03

Upon acceptance, meet with Program Coordinator to confirm program of study (the courses you need to take). *Prior educational courses and experience will be considered.*

04

Register for courses online using LionPATH

05

Meet briefly with Program Coordinator/Advisor (each semester) to confirm course selection and determine when candidate may proceed with internship.

PROGRESSION

Coursework Completion. Certification.



06

After satisfactory completion of coursework and clinical experience, Program Coordinator will recommend candidate to the Penn State Harrisburg Certification Officer.

07

Upon receiving notice, the Certification Officer will review candidate's passing PRAXIS scores. Then, they can recommend candidate to PDE for Special Education PK-12 Certification.

08

Candidate applies to PDE for Special Education PK-12 Certification. Questions on the application process can be directed to the certification officer (see contact page).

CONTACTS

PLEASE REFER TO THE LIST OF CONTACTS AND SEND QUESTIONS TO THE APPROPRIATE PERSON FOR A TIMELY RESPONSE.



PROGRAM COORDINATOR

DR. LINDA RHEN

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ASSISTANCE WITH APPLYING FOR CERTIFICATION

REBECCA ORT, CERTIFICATION OFFICER

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ASSISTANCE WITH ONLINE APPLICATION

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ASSISTANCE WITH ONLINE APPLICATION

MADY WUN, GRADUATE SCHOOL OFFICE

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ASSISTANCE REGISTERING FOR COURSES

DEB KLUGH, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

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HELPFUL LINKS

Each link below will be useful throughout the pathways towards Special Education Certification. Refer back to this page when needed.

PENN STATE ACADEMIC CALENDAR

[CLICK HERE](#)

**PENN STATE HARRISBURG PK-12 SPECIAL EDUCATION
CERTIFICATION WEBSITE**

[CLICK HERE](#)

**PENN STATE HARRISBURG PK-12 SPECIAL EDUCATION
CERTIFICATION APPLICATION**

[CLICK HERE](#)

**INFORMATION ON PRAXIS TEST #5354 (PATHWAY #1
AND #2)**

[CLICK HERE](#)

**INFORMATION ON PRAXIS TEST #5511 (PATHWAY #2
ONLY)**

[CLICK HERE](#)

REGISTER FOR A PRAXIS EXAM

[CLICK HERE](#)

