

SPECIAL EDUCATION K-12 POSTBACCALAUREATE CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

Postbaccalaureate Certificate

Prepares K-12 special educators at the graduate level with specific training in the areas of disabilities, assessment, interventions strategies, current law and the implementation of programs including development of legally defensible federal IDEA documents.

Graduates will have mastery of the Council for Exceptional Children standards for special education teachers: learner development and individual learning differences, learning environments, curricular content knowledge, assessment, instructional planning and strategies, professional learning and ethical practice and collaboration. The program will provide individuals who already possess, or are eligible for, a current Alaska teaching certificate or a bachelor's degree and the necessary prerequisites, with specific training in the area of special education. The program prepares K-12 special education teachers who can effectively understand state and national education issues and respond appropriately. Special education candidates will progress through a series of developmentally sequenced field experiences for all ages, types and levels of abilities, including collaborative opportunities.

The program provides development in collaboration/consultation models and program development in multicultural settings. Completion of this program meets requirements for Alaska licensure as a K-12 special education teacher.

Minimum Requirements for Special Education K-12 Postbaccalaureate Certificate: 39-42 credits

School of Education (<http://www.uaf.edu/educ/graduate/>)
907-474-7341

Admission Requirements

Admission Requirements for Certified Teachers

Complete the following admission requirements:

- Admission requirements for the graduate program.
- Current teaching certificate or equivalent course work towards an Alaska teaching certificate.

Prerequisite or corequisite: EDSE F482 or comparable transfer course from another institution

Admission Requirements for Initial Certification

1. Complete the following admission requirements:
 - a. Admission requirements for the graduate program.
 - b. Baccalaureate degree along with the following prerequisites:
 - i. Documented recent experience (minimum 12 hours) in an educational setting with children experiencing disabilities.

- ii. UAF prerequisite or corequisite courses or comparable transfer courses. Courses may be completed prior to admission or during the program:

| Code | Title | Credits |
|--------------------------------|---|---------|
| ED F245 | Child Development | 3 |
| EDSE F482 | Inclusive Classrooms for All Children | 3 |
| Complete one of the following: | | 3 |
| ED F201 | Introduction to Education | |
| ED F624 | Foundations of Education in Alaska: From Segregation to Standards | |
| EDSC F205 | Introduction to Secondary Education | |
| EDSC F415 | Foundations of Modern Educational Practice | |

- iii. Passing scores on the Praxis Academic Skills for Educators test (or Praxis I) or another test acceptable to the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development before or during the first semester of classes. Current test numbers and minimum scores can be found at the Basic Competency Examination Requirements page. (<https://education.alaska.gov/teachercertification/praxis/>)
 - iv. Passing scores on the appropriate Praxis II Exam(s) required before entering EDSE F678. Current test numbers and minimum scores can be found on the Content Area Exam Information pdf. (https://education.alaska.gov/teachercertification/pdf/content_area_exams.pdf) Candidates should consult the employing school district to determine preferred tests based on teaching assignment.
 - v. Passing scores on the Special Education: Core Knowledge and Applications Praxis Exam (test #5354) or another test acceptable to the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development before or during EDSE F680. Passing scores are required to complete EDSE F680 and graduate from the Special Education K-12 Postbaccalaureate Certificate of Completion.
2. The following are recommended prior to admission or during the program. They are not required for the degree, but they are required for Alaska teacher certification:
 - a. An Alaska studies course approved by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development. See the Teacher Certification site (<http://education.alaska.gov/teachercertification/>).
 - b. A multicultural education/cross-cultural communication course approved by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development. See the Teacher Certification site (<http://education.alaska.gov/teachercertification/>).
 3. All prerequisite or corequisite courses must be completed with a minimum final grade of B.

Program Requirements

Program Requirements for Certified Teachers

Minimum Requirements for Certification: 24 credits

| Code | Title | Credits |
|---|--|---------|
| General University Requirements | | |
| Complete the general university requirements. (https://catalog.uaf.edu/archives/2020-2021/graduate/#certificateslicensencurestext) | | |
| Corequisite Requirements ¹ | | |
| EDSE F482 | Inclusive Classrooms for All Children | 3 |
| Program Requirements | | |
| EDSE F610 | Assessment of Students with Exceptionalities | 3 |
| EDSE F612 | Curriculum, Management and Strategies I: Low Incidence | 3 |
| EDSE F622 | Curriculum, Management and Strategies II: High Incidence | 3 |
| EDSE F625 | Teaching Mathematics to Special Learners | 3 |
| EDSE F632 | Special Education Law: Principles and Practices | 3 |
| EDSE F677 | English Language Arts Assessment, Curriculum and Strategies for Special Learners | 3 |
| EDSE F680 | Special Education Clinical Practice ^{2,3} | 3 |
| Electives | | |
| Complete one of the following: 3 | | |
| EDSE F605 | Early Childhood Special Education | |
| EDSE F624 | Social/Emotional Development, Assessment and Intervention | |
| EDSE F633 | Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities: Communication and Social Interventions | |
| EDSE F640 | Culturally Responsive Collaboration: Working with Parents, Colleagues and Paraprofessionals | |
| EDSE F642 | Autism Spectrum Disorders and Other Developmental Disabilities: Sensory and Behavioral Interventions | |
| EDSE F648 | Understanding FASD: Diagnosis, Intervention and Strategies | |

¹ Complete the corequisite course before or during admittance to the program; or have a comparable transfer course from another university.

² Students pursuing a K-12 special education certificate must complete clinical practice in a public school setting.

³ Additional fee required. Charges are added to fee statements every semester.

Program Requirements for Initial Certification

Minimum Requirements for Certification: 27 credits

| Code | Title | Credits |
|---|--|---------|
| General University Requirements | | |
| Complete the general university requirements. (https://catalog.uaf.edu/archives/2020-2021/graduate/#certificateslicensencurestext) | | |
| Corequisite Requirements ¹ | | |
| ED F245 | Child Development | 3 |
| EDSE F482 | Inclusive Classrooms for All Children | 3 |
| Complete one of the following: 3 | | |
| ED F201 | Introduction to Education | |
| ED F624 | Foundations of Education in Alaska: From Segregation to Standards | |
| EDSC F205 | Introduction to Secondary Education | |
| EDSC F415 | Foundations of Modern Educational Practice | |
| Program Requirements | | |
| EDSE F610 | Assessment of Students with Exceptionalities | 3 |
| EDSE F612 | Curriculum, Management and Strategies I: Low Incidence | 3 |
| EDSE F622 | Curriculum, Management and Strategies II: High Incidence | 3 |
| EDSE F625 | Teaching Mathematics to Special Learners | 3 |
| EDSE F632 | Special Education Law: Principles and Practices | 3 |
| EDSE F677 | English Language Arts Assessment, Curriculum and Strategies for Special Learners | 3 |
| EDSE F678 | Special Education Clinical Practice: Initial ³ | 3 |
| EDSE F680 | Special Education Clinical Practice ^{2,3} | 3 |
| Electives | | |
| Complete one of the following: 3 | | |
| EDSE F605 | Early Childhood Special Education | |
| EDSE F624 | Social/Emotional Development, Assessment and Intervention | |
| EDSE F633 | Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities: Communication and Social Interventions | |
| EDSE F640 | Culturally Responsive Collaboration: Working with Parents, Colleagues and Paraprofessionals | |
| EDSE F642 | Autism Spectrum Disorders and Other Developmental Disabilities: Sensory and Behavioral Interventions | |
| EDSE F648 | Understanding FASD: Diagnosis, Intervention and Strategies | |

¹ Complete the corequisite courses before or during admittance to the program; or have comparable transfer courses from another university.

- ² Students pursuing a K-12 special education certificate must complete a clinical practice in a public school setting.
- ³ Additional fee required. Charges are added to fee statements every semester.

Note: Students who do not have a current Alaska teacher certificate must take 6 credits of clinical practice. Clinical practice courses are taken the last two semesters of the program. To enter the clinical practice, students must apply for authorization from the State of Alaska. This includes fingerprinting and a background check. Fingerprint clearance may take up to six months to complete. Submit the clinical practice application two semesters prior to the desired placement. Failure to comply with the requirement, falsification of information, or evidence of a criminal conviction that is named in the law or the Professional Teaching Practices Commission is considered an ethics violation. This will result in denied access to field placement in Alaska school districts. Authorization is required before clinical practice can begin.