

FAQ Sheet
SPED PK-12 Masters in Education

Slippery Rock University

2 Options to choose from:

Option 1

(No student teaching required, already have an earned teaching certification)

Option 2

(Student teaching is required, you are seeking initial teaching certification)

For more information on both options, go to:

[https://www.sru.edu/academics/graduate-programs/special-education-concentration-in-pk-12-\(master-of-education\)](https://www.sru.edu/academics/graduate-programs/special-education-concentration-in-pk-12-(master-of-education))

Option 1 FAQs:

Question: How many credits do I need to complete the degree?

Answer: 36 credits

Question: What courses are required in this program?

Answer: See the current guidesheet for more details at:

[https://www.sru.edu/academics/graduate-programs/special-education-concentration-in-pk-12-\(master-of-education\)](https://www.sru.edu/academics/graduate-programs/special-education-concentration-in-pk-12-(master-of-education))

Click on “Fact Sheet” near the bottom of the page

Question: Do I need to have current clearances to begin SPED 648: Practicum?

Answer: YES! Please see the “Clearance Portal” for more information. Also, see the 4 Phases of Teacher Education:

<https://www.sru.edu/academics/colleges-and-departments/coe/four-phases-of-teacher-education#:~:text=Teacher%20education%20at%20SRU%20has%20four%20phases%20from,Teacher%20Candidacy%2C%20Student%20Teaching%2C%20Graduation%2C%20and%20Certification.%20>

Question: Can I keep working in my current job as a teacher or within an educational role in my school district while completing SPED 648: Practicum

Answer: Yes, this should not be a problem if your job is in an educational setting and with their approval/support. The final decision is with your practicum professor but should not be a concern. You will establish your placement for practicum with your practicum professor who will serve as your supervisor for this experience.

Question: Do I need to take a PRAXIS II exam?

Answer: Yes, you need to take SPED PRAXIS Exam #5355

Question: Do I need to apply for graduation?

Answer: Yes. You will need to apply through your MySRU Portal.

Option 2 FAQs:

Question: How many credits do I need to complete the degree?

Answer: You need to take a total of **48** credits. This includes 33 credits of coursework, 3 credits of practicum (SPED 648), 9 credits of Student Teaching (SPED 701) and an additional 3 credit course to meet a PDE requirement for ELL (SEFE 607).

Question: What courses are required in this program?

Answer: See the current guidesheet for more details at:

[https://www.sru.edu/academics/graduate-programs/special-education-concentration-in-pk-12-\(master-of-education\)](https://www.sru.edu/academics/graduate-programs/special-education-concentration-in-pk-12-(master-of-education))

Click on "Fact Sheet" near the bottom of the page

Question: When do I complete the Intent to Student Teach Form?

Answer: You should complete this form in the first semester/session you start at SRU and submit to your advisor for their signature. Your advisor will submit this completed form to the Dean's office. This informs the Dean's office that you will need a student teaching placement in the near future. This form is located at MySRU.

Question: What is the Disposition Form that is required for students in Option 2?

Answer: You are required to submit 2 disposition forms prior to starting SPED 648. Once you have completed SPED 617 and again when you complete SPED 618, you are to contact your professor and request that a disposition form be completed for you. You will need to submit both completed forms to your advisor via the SPED PK-12 D2L shell. A copy of this form can be found in the D2L shell under "Content".

Question: Do I need to have current clearances to begin SPED 648: Practicum and to student teach?

Answer: **YES!** Please see the “Clearance Portal” for more information. Also, see the 4 Phases of Teacher Education:

<https://www.sru.edu/academics/colleges-and-departments/coe/four-phases-of-teacher-education#:~:text=Teacher%20education%20at%20SRU%20has%20four%20phases%20from,Teacher%20Candidacy%2C%20Student%20Teaching%2C%20Graduation%2C%20and%20Certification.%20>

Question: Can I keep working in my current job while completing SPED 648: Practicum?

Answer: This depends on where you work. A Field Placement Coordinator will coordinate all practicum placements for students in this option 2 program.

Question: Can I keep working in my current job while completing SPED 701: Student Teaching in Special Education?

Answer: No. You will need to take a semester off work to student teach full time. If you are currently working under an emergency special education teaching certificate and teaching in a special education classroom, all efforts will be made to keep you in that placement.

Question: What do I need to do the semester prior to student teaching? (You will be enrolled in SPED 648: Practicum)

Answer: You must attend a mandatory meeting held by the Assistant Dean&/or the SRU field placement coordinator the semester prior to student teaching.

You must complete a Registration for Student Teaching form. This must be signed by your advisor before submitting electronically to the portlet.

You do NOT need to take the SPED 440 seminar during student teaching. This is only for undergraduate student teachers.

Question: Do I need to a PRAXIS II exam?

Answer: **Yes**, you need to take **2 PRAXIS II exams**: SPED PRAXIS Exam #5355 **AND** Fundamental Subject Exam #5511.

Question: Do I need to apply for graduation?

Answer: Yes. You will need to apply through your MySRU Portal.

Question: Do I need to complete my student teaching in the state of Pennsylvania?

Answer: Yes!

