

SPECIAL EDUCATION CONCENTRATION IN PK-12

MASTER OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

DELIVERY METHOD

100% online*

*Note: option 2 student teaching practicum hours in a school setting are required

START TERMS

Fall, Winter, Spring, or Summer

COMPLETION TIME

Students can complete the M.Ed. in as little as 1–1.5 years, with up to six years allowed. Year-round classes let students progress at their own pace and convenience.

NUMBER OF CREDITS

36 - 45 credits

IMPORTANT NOTE

Option #2: Practicum and student teaching must be completed in the state of Pennsylvania



Council for the
Accreditation of
Educator Preparation

SRU was one of 15 colleges and universities in Pennsylvania to receive a grant from the PDE to fund scholarships at institutions that partner with school districts to expedite the process for students to become special education teachers. These SRU students received a combined \$100,000 of the total \$1.5 million funding from the PDE's Accelerated Program for PK-12 Special Education Teacher Certification grant program.

SlipperyRock
University

A member of Pennsylvania's State System
of Higher Education

EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

www.sru.edu/graduate

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The master's degree program in Special Education is being offered by one of the oldest Special Education Departments in the United States with a long history of producing top quality special educators in Pennsylvania and across the United States. The faculty who has extensive teaching and administration experience in the field has developed an award-winning online program that can be completed in one calendar year for those with existing teaching credentials or a year-and-a-half for those students seeking initial teaching certification. The online format has been designed for working professionals and busy consumers that want to obtain a degree and teaching credentials without extensive travel and the ability to complete it using a flexible schedule. Courses are set up in both an asynchronous and synchronous manner with most classes being offered in an asynchronous format.

OPTION #1 (FOR CERTIFIED TEACHERS)

Option #1 allows students with existing certification in any area to earn a master's degree and to add on a Special Education PK-12 certification to their existing teaching credentials. This program is offered exclusively online and can be completed in one calendar year. Students who choose this option will be required to complete 36 credits to earn an M.Ed. in Special Education and will be required to take and pass Praxis 5354 Special Education Core Knowledge and Application to add on the PK-12 Special Education Certification to their existing teaching license.

OPTION #2 (FOR STUDENTS SEEKING AN INITIAL CERTIFICATION)

Option #2 is appropriate for students interested in a career change. Choosing this option will result in a master's degree in special education and initial certification in Special Education PK-12. Because it is a program offering initial certification, the curriculum can be completed in 1.5 years including a 15-week student teaching experience. This program is ideal for candidates seeking a career change. All student teaching experiences must be completed in the state of Pennsylvania.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

SRU's M.Ed. Program in Special Education with two options offers the following:

- An earned M.Ed. from one of the oldest and most reputable Special Education Departments in America
- An opportunity to add a Special Education teaching certification PK-12 to existing certification
- Initial teaching certification in Special Education PK-12 for those seeking a career change
- PA Department of Education approved program curriculum
- Asynchronous content delivery for those students seeking a flexible schedule
- Synchronous instruction at strategic points in the program for students seeking initial certification
- CAEP accredited program that has undergone extensive review
- Does not require a GRE or MAT score for entrance into the program
- Knowledgeable academic advisors who know the job market and are working and consulting in the field

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All applicants must submit the following materials along with a completed online graduate application and non-refundable application fee:

- Copy of teaching certification (for those seeking Option #1 shown above)
- Resume
- Two electronic recommendation forms: two from professionals in the field or one from a professional in the field and one from a faculty member from your previous school
- Official undergraduate degree transcripts and any graduate transcripts

TUITION AND ASSISTANTSHIPS

Information on current tuition and assistantships can be found on the main Graduate Admissions website at www.sru.edu/graduate. Financial Aid brochures are available through the Financial Aid Office at www.sru.edu/FinAid or the Office of Graduate Admissions.

CURRICULUM GUIDE

Area I: Core Courses in Special Education

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|---|---|
| SPED 611: Special Education Law | 3 |
| SPED 617: Current Research in Special Education | 3 |
| SPED 625: Instructional Strategies for Learning and Behavioral Problems | 3 |

Subtotal 9

Area II: Concentration in Special Education

| | |
|---|-----------|
| SPED 602: Advanced Studies in Exceptionalities | 3 |
| SPED 607: Positive Classroom Interventions | 3 |
| SPED 618: Developing Integrated Language and Literacy Programs for Students with Disabilities | 3 |
| SPED 620: Contemporary Issues in Special Education | 3 |
| SPED 644: Advanced Study of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders | 3 |
| SPED 645: Early Intervention for Young Learners with Special Needs | 3 |
| SPED 646: Assessment and Evaluation | 3 |
| SPED 647: Transition for Persons with Disabilities | 3 |
| Subtotal | 24 |

Area III: Practicum/Student Teaching

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|---|-----------|
| SPED 648: Clinical Practicum in Special Education | 3 |
| SPED 701: Student Teaching in Special Education | 9 |
| Total | 45 |

- PDE requires a course in ELL if the teaching candidate does not have one in a previous undergraduate or graduate education program. SEFE 607 meets this requirement.
- Candidates seeking to add a PK-12 Special Education Certification to an existing teaching certification must complete Practicum 648. Candidates seeking initial certification must also take Practicum 648.
- Candidates with an existing undergraduate or graduate degree in an area other than education and who do not possess a current teaching certification, must complete both Practicum 648 and Student Teaching 701.



SCAN QR code for more information

CLEARANCES

Clearances are due no later than one (1) week prior to deadline for course registration for each program's practicum/field experience-----no student will be permitted to register for their program's practicum and take part in practicum/field experiences without clearances on file at SRU. Please refer to the graduate website at www.sru.edu/graduate and select "Requirements by Program" to learn more.

TESTING AND PDE CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS (to view the most updated information, click on the QR code)



PROGRAM AWARDS



FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ACADEMICS AND COURSE SCHEDULING:

Dr. Richael Barger-Anderson
Graduate Coordinator
208D McKay Education Building
724.738.2873
richael.barger-ander@sru.edu

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ADMISSIONS:

Office of Graduate Admissions
104 North Hall, Welcome Center
Slippery Rock, PA 16057
www.sru.edu/graduate
724.738.2051 or 877.SRU.GRAD
graduate.admissions@sru.edu

The educational policies and procedures are continually being reviewed and changed in keeping with the mission of the university. Consequently, this document cannot be considered binding and is intended to be used as only an informational guide. Students are responsible for being informed of official policies and regulations for meeting all appropriate requirements.