

POLICY AND PROCEDURES: Admission to Special Education
ADOPTION DATE: March 1998 (revised January 2014)

Students are admitted to Utah State University as a pre-Special Education Major. When they are admitted they are assigned an advisor (Ms. Darcie Peterson, 435 797-3251; darcie.peterson@usu.edu) in the Special Education and Rehabilitation Department. Students are encouraged to contact the Special Education Advisor whenever there are questions about career opportunities, class selection, the admissions process and student teaching.

New students meet with the advisor in person during SOAR or over the internet via on-line SOAR. During SOAR students are given basic information about the Special Education major and information regarding registration for the following semester.

Students are encouraged to make an appointment during the following semester with the Special Education Advisor to plan out a college program.

Course Requirements

Students may apply to the Special Education major and the College of Education (joint application) when they complete the following requirements:

- Complete ENGL 1010 with a grade of C+ or better.
- Complete Math 1050 and Math 2020 with a grade of C or higher. Take STAT 1040 first semester after admission. Mild/Moderate majors take the Praxis Middle School Math Test (5169).
- Complete Breadth American Institutions with a grade of C or better.
- Complete Breadth Life Science with a grade of C or better.
- Complete Breadth Physical Science with a grade of C or better.
- Complete FCHD 1500 with a grade of C or better.
- GPA of at least 3.00 on 40 attempted credit hours.
- Pass the Special Education Math Test. Number of attempts matters.
- Pass the College of Education Writing Exam. Number of attempts matters
- Take the Speech and Hearing Test.
- Minimum ACT scores taken within the past five years (21 Composite, 20 English, 19 Math, 18 Reading, 18 Science)
- Clear Utah and FBI background check

Other Requirements

Application to the Special Education Major:

- Must have the above requirements met.
- Application is due every year by October 1. Students typically apply during their sophomore year.
- The application can be found on the Special Education Website <http://sped.usu.edu/undergrad>

- Admitted students must then complete the professional education coursework during spring semester before they can begin the special education coursework.
- Admission to the special education major is competitive. The minimum GPA for application is 2.75.
- The following factors are considered when reviewing applications:
 1. Teacher education requirements met
 2. GPA
 3. Documented prior experience helping people with disabilities
 4. Total number of credit hours completed
 5. Minimum ACT scores taken within 5 years
 6. Previous application that met all requirements
 7. Background Check

Applications are available beginning July 1 of each year. The application may be found at <http://sped.usu.edu/undergrad>

Timeline

Applications will be reviewed by the Special Education Undergraduate Committee. Letters will be mailed to students regarding their admissions status by November 1.

Students who are accepted to the Special Education major will submit the Letter of Intent by December 1.

Students admitted to the Special Education major will complete the Professional Education classes the following spring semester with a grade in each of class of at least a C.

Admitted students must satisfy the Professional Development Component.

Admitted students will begin the Special Education coursework the next fall semester.

Use the following checklist for admissions:

Admission Checklist for Teacher Education and Special Education

Completed	Minimum Grade/Score	Requirement
	C+	*ENGL 1010 or AP English
	C	*STAT 1040 or AP Calculus (<i>Math 1050 also accepted</i>) (<u>Mild/Moderate majors</u> need both STAT 1040 and Math 1050 and n to take the Middle School Math Praxis Test (0069) for admission.
	C	*Breadth American Institutions <i>Recommended Course: USU 1300</i>
	C	*Breadth Life Science <i>Recommended Course: USU 1350</i>

	C	*Breadth Physical Science (PHYS 1200 is required)
	C	*Breadth Social Science (FCHD 1500 is required)
	Pass	College of Education Writing Exam <i>Offered the first five weeks of every semester in the YETC. 1st & 2nd exams are free. The remediation process for the 2nd exam is \$100. http://cehs.usu.edu/index.php/students-programs/teacher-education Number of attempts matters.</i>
	Pass	Special Education Math Test <i>Offered the first five weeks of every semester. Free. Make an appt with Co Brunner (435/797-3245 or cosette.brunner@usu.edu) Practice test at http://sper.usu.edu/undergrad under Admissions Requirements. Number of attempts matters. 95% correct required. Only 2 attempts allowed. No calculators allowed. Untimed.</i>
	Take	Speech and Hearing Test <i>Sign up for an appointment through the Communicative Disorders Department. Cost \$10. Bridgerland Audiology also offers it for free.</i>
	Apply right before applying for admission	Background Check. Online application. Go to http://cehs.usu.edu/index.php/students-programs/teacher-education Cost \$84.
	2.75	Minimum GPA on 40 attempted credit hours. <i>Admission is competitive. Competitive GPA is 3.5 or higher</i>

Gaining Experience

If students do not have experience working with students with disabilities, they may want to take SPED4910. This class provides experience in local schools working with students with disabilities. Students must fill out a SPED 4910 contract with their advisor to be in this course.