

Moderate/Severe Disabilities Education Specialist Credential

Azusa Pacific University's Moderate/Severe Disabilities Education Specialist Credential (<https://www.apu.edu/education/programs/special-education-moderate-severe-credential>) program prepares candidates to earn a California Moderate/Severe Disabilities Education Specialist Preliminary Credential. This rigorous program includes comprehensive foundations courses emphasizing methods alongside specialization courses that provide content required for the disabilities specialist credential. Practical classroom and fieldwork experiences provide application to theory, preparing candidates to teach in diverse settings. The mode of delivery includes face-to-face, campus-based classes and field experiences.

Course Requirements

Code	Title	Units
Foundation Courses		
TESP 501	Art of Teaching I: Foundations of Teaching ¹	3
TESP 511	Art of Teaching II: Pedagogy and Instructional Design ¹	3
TESP 502	Science of Teaching I: How Students Learn ¹	3
TESP 512	Science of Teaching II: Effective Assessment Strategies for All Learners ¹	3
TESP 503	The Soul of Teaching: Tapestry of American Education	3
TESP 504	Schools and Educational Systems	3
Specialization Courses		
SPED 525	Methods of Teaching Reading and Writing	3
SPED 527	Teaching Students with Moderate to Severe Disabilities	3
SPED 528	Assessment and IEP Development	3
SPED 529	Positive Behavior Supports for Students with Exceptional Needs	3
SPED 571	Clinical Practice I: Moderate to Severe Disabilities	2
SPED 572	Clinical Practice II: Moderate to Severe Disabilities	2
Total Units		34

¹ These courses must be completed prior to beginning clinical practice.

NOTE: A maximum of 9 units may be taken per term. Completion of all credential requirements—including all examinations, coursework, and other requirements—must be met before the candidate will be recommended for a credential. Candidates should meet with their credential analyst (<http://www.apu.edu/education/resources/credentials>) for information regarding the credential application process.

NOTE: Candidates who hold an Intern Credential must enroll in an intern support course (SPED 500) each fall or spring 8-week session in which they are not enrolled in a clinical practice course.