

MA in Education with Extensive Support Needs Education Specialist Credential

Azusa Pacific University's Master of Arts in Education with Extensive Support Needs Education Specialist Credential program (<https://www.apu.edu/programs/masters-in-special-education-moderate-severe/>) prepares candidates to earn a Master of Arts in Education degree along with an embedded Extensive Support Needs Education Specialist Preliminary Credential. This program includes comprehensive foundation courses emphasizing teaching and educational methods, as well as specialization courses providing content required for the education specialist credential. Practical classroom and fieldwork experiences provide application to theory, preparing candidates to teach in diverse settings. Advanced coursework in the emphasis area of special education provides candidates with knowledge needed to serve students with disabilities in TK-12 public schools. The mode of delivery includes face-to-face instruction, campus-based classes, distance learning, online courses, and clinical experiences.

Azusa Pacific University's Extensive Support Needs Education Specialist Credential program is approved by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) (<https://www.ctc.ca.gov/>) and the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) (<https://caepnet.org/>), and includes specific methods courses that are accompanied by practical classroom applications and clinical experiences in public school assignments.

Upon completion of the requirements listed below and all of the requirements detailed in the Steps to a Credential (<http://catalog.apu.edu/academics/college-education-behavioral-sciences/school-education/teacher-education/steps-to-credential/>), the candidate will have earned an Extensive Support Needs Education Specialist Preliminary Credential and a Master of Arts in Education degree.

Computer and Software Requirements

Each student must have a Mac or PC laptop or notebook running the latest operating system with a word processing program and a stable internet connection.

Code	Title	Units
Core Courses		
TESP 501	Art of Teaching I: Foundations of Teaching	3
TESP 502	Science of Teaching I: How Students Learn	3
TESP 507	Multilingual Learners and Literacy Development	3
TESP 508	Literacy and the Humanities, TK-8	3
SPED 517	Art of Teaching II: Pedagogy and Instructional Design for Education Specialists	3
SPED 518	Science of Teaching II: Effective Assessment Strategies for Learners with Special Needs	3
SPED 527	Teaching Students with Extensive Support Needs	3
SPED 528	Assessment and IEP Development: Mild to Extensive Support Needs	3
SPED 529	Positive Behavior Supports for Students with Exceptional Needs	3
TESP 553	Schools and Educational Systems	2
SPED 577	Clinical Practice: Extensive Support Needs ¹	8
TESP 557	Teaching Performance Assessment (TPA) and Literacy Performance Assessment (LPA) Support Course	2
Learning and Technology Concentration		12
EDUC 580	Research in Education	
EDUC 547	Special Topics in Educational Technology ²	
EDUC 548	Emerging Trends in Technology: AI and Innovative Teaching	
EDUC 589	Research in Education: Capstone	
Special Education Concentration		12
EDUC 580	Research in Education	
EDUC 586	21st Century Leadership for Educators	
EDUC 588	Neurodiverse Learners and Inclusive Education	
EDUC 589	Research in Education: Capstone	
Elective Course ³		
EDUC 538	Current Issues in Education ⁴	

EDUC 547	Special Topics in Educational Technology ^{2, 5}	
Total Units		51

- ¹ Refer to the [Clinical Practice Clearance \(https://catalog.apu.edu/academics/college-education-behavioral-sciences/school-education/teacher-education/steps-to-credential/clearance/\)](https://catalog.apu.edu/academics/college-education-behavioral-sciences/school-education/teacher-education/steps-to-credential/clearance/) requirements.
- ² May be taken for credit up to three times as an additional elective as long as topics are not repeated.
- ³ Elective courses can be used toward the master's degree only for the individual needing additional units to complete the degree. Elective courses cannot be used to replace core courses or emphasis courses. The program is designed to be completed with 51 units; the use of elective units to complete the degree may increase the unit total.
- ⁴ This course may only be taken as an elective by students in the Special Education concentration.
- ⁵ This course may only be taken as an elective by students in the Learning and Technology concentration.

NOTE: Teacher candidates in master's degree programs who have opted to waive some coursework must take additional units to fulfill the unit requirement. All program requirements, including all examinations, coursework, and other requirements, must be completed within their program time limit for the preliminary credential recommendation and for degree conferral. A graduation application must be completed and fees paid by the deadlines set by the Office of the Registrar (<https://www.apu.edu/student-services/registration/>).

NOTE: Candidates who hold an intern credential must enroll in a candidate support and supervision course (TESP 590) during each 8-week session (fall or spring) in which they are not enrolled in a clinical practice course.

It is the candidate's responsibility to submit a credential application through the Office of Credentials (<https://www.apu.edu/education/resources/credentials/>) upon completion of a credential program to receive his/her California educator credential.

Admission

University graduate admission and program-specific requirements must be met before an application is complete (see Admissions Information (<http://catalog.apu.edu/admissions/>)). **Program-specific application requirements are available online (<https://www.apu.edu/graduateprofessional/apply/>).**

International students should contact Graduate and Professional Admissions (<https://www.apu.edu/graduateprofessional/apply/>) for application procedures.