

Special Education

The Special Education area of the Division of Teacher Education offers master's degree and credential programs for candidates seeking a California Preliminary Education Specialist Credential with either a mild to moderate support needs or extensive support needs specialization authorizing them to teach in the public TK-12 environment. All Preliminary Education Specialist Credential programs are approved by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) (<https://www.ctc.ca.gov/>).

APU candidates are prepared to work in schools as education specialists. Candidates must demonstrate the content knowledge, pedagogical and professional knowledge, writing skills, and dispositions necessary to help all children learn. APU candidates are highly regarded in fulfilling these high professional standards. The department assesses all candidates from admission, throughout their program, and up to the recommendation of credentials. Assessments are used to evaluate and inform candidate learning and include the following assessment areas: CTC teacher performance expectations, APU program learning outcomes, and teacher candidate dispositions.