

POLICY AND PROCEDURES: Admission to Special Education
ADOPTION DATE: March 1998 (revised 9-12-05)

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, 435 797-3252; darciep@cc.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 STAT 1040 with a grade of C or better.
- 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 2.75 on 40 attempted credit hours.
- Pass the Computer Information Literacy Exam.
- Pass the Special Education Math Test.
- Pass the College of Education Writing Exam.
- Take the Speech and Hearing Test.

Other Requirements

Application to the Special Education Major also requires the following:

- Application is due every year by October 1. Students typically apply during their sophomore year.
- The application form can be found on the Special Education Website, i.e., <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 supporting people with disabilities.
 4. Total number of credit hours completed.

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 C.

Admitted students must complete a background check by March 1.

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

Date Completed	Minimum Grade/Score	Requirement
	C+	*ENGL 1010 or AP English
	C	*STAT 1040 or AP Calculus (<i>Prerequisites to STAT 1040: Math 0900 if ACT is below 18. Math 1010 if ACT is 18-22.</i>) <i>Students may take STAT 1040 if your ACT is 23+.</i>
	C	*Breadth American Institutions <i>Recommended Course: USU 1300</i>
	C	*Breadth Life Science <i>Recommended Course: USU 1350</i>
	C	*Breadth Physical Science <i>Recommended Course: USU 1360</i>
	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 after the 2nd exam is \$100.</i>
	Pass	*Computer and Information Literacy Exam. http://cil.usu.edu/
	Pass	Special Education Math Test <i>Offered the second five weeks of every semester. Free. Make an appt with Co Brunner (435/797-3245 or cosette@cc.usu.edu). Practice test at http://sped.usu.edu/undergrad under Admissions Requirements.</i>
	Take	Speech and Hearing Test. <i>Sign up for an appointment through the Communicative Disorders Department. Cost \$10.</i>
	2.75	Minimum GPA on 40 attempted credit hours. <i>Admission is competitive.</i>

*Counts toward University Studies Requirements

Note: Two of the Breadth Courses must be University Studies Courses (i.e. USU 1300 BAI, 1350 BLS, 1360 BPS, 1320 BHU, 1330 BCA)

Other University Study Requirements

Date Completed	Requirement
	Breadth Humanities <i>Recommended Course: USU 1320</i>
	Breadth Creative Arts <i>Recommended Course: USU 1330</i>
	ENGL 2010
	University Depth Course (3 credits). <i>Available in 3 categories. Select one course from two separate categories.</i>
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	Communications Intensive – ELED 3000 required for all Special Education Majors
	Communications Intensive – SPED 5200 required for all Special Education Majors
	Quantitative Intensive – SPED 5010 required for all Special Education Majors

Gaining Experience

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