



Pathways for Paraprofessionals to Become Licensed Special Education Teachers in North Dakota

Special Education Licensure Program (for those with a bachelor's degree)

Certification Central (CC) is an alternative certification program leading to full teacher licensure in special education in North Dakota. CC is competency-based and aligned to both state (ESPB) and national teaching standards (i.e., CAEP, InTASC, CEC). Learners demonstrate competencies through authentic, performance-based assessments while working in a school setting.

Special Education Technician Program (for those with an Associate's degree or no degree)

CC and Minot State University (MSU) have a PIPELINE (www.ndspedpipeline.org) that allows learners to transfer special education technician credits into MSU's undergraduate degree in special education. Learners can work as special education technicians while completing coursework for the special education degree which leads to the ND Special Education license.

Certification Central encourages learners to **enroll at any time** and to **move at their own pace**, thus the program is not semester-based. Asynchronous, online instruction allows learners to enroll from anywhere in ND.

Pathways/Programs of Study

CC has three pathways for those seeking licensure as a special education teacher in North Dakota and one pathway for those seeking certification as a special education technician.

1. Those who have a degree in education at the early childhood or elementary level complete Program of Study 1. (seeking teacher licensure)
2. Those who have a degree in education at the middle or secondary level complete Program of Study 2. (seeking teacher licensure)
3. Those who have a degree other than education complete Program of Study 3. (seeking teacher licensure)
4. Those who have an associate's degree or no degree complete Program of Study 4 (seeking special education technician certification)

**Program of Study 1:
Special Education Licensure Program: Education Degree in Early Childhood or
Elementary Education**

Special Education Core	Credit Equivalent
SPED Module 1 Learner Development & Individual Learning/Cultural Differences	3
SPED Module 2 Legal/Ethical Practices & Professional Learning	3
SPED Module 3 Curricular Content Knowledge & Individual Education Plans	3
SPED Module 4 Assessment & Measurement	3
SPED Module 5 Understanding & Managing Behavior	3
SPED Module 6 Instructional Planning, Strategies, & Transition	3
SPED Module 7 Collaboration, Consultation, & Supervision	3
SPED Module 8 Inclusive Learning Environments	3
SPED 550 Special Education Internship 700 Hour Clinical Practice Requirement: On the Job	2-7
Total Credits	26-31

**Program of Study 2:
Special Education Licensure Program: Education Degree in Middle/Secondary Education**

Special Education Core	Credit Equivalent
SPED Module 1 Learner Development & Individual Learning/Cultural Differences	3
SPED Module 2 Legal/Ethical Practices & Professional Learning	3
SPED Module 3 Curricular Content Knowledge & Individual Education Plans	3
SPED Module 4 Assessment & Measurement	3
SPED Module 5 Understanding & Managing Behavior	3
SPED Module 6 Instructional Planning, Strategies, & Transition	3
SPED Module 7 Collaboration, Consultation, & Supervision	3
SPED Module 8 Inclusive Learning Environments	3
SPED 550 Special Education Internship 700 Hour Clinical Practice Requirement: On-the-Job	2-7
Professional Education Core	
ED Module 10 Reading Methods: Elementary	3
ED Module 11 Math Methods: Elementary	3
Total Credits	32-37

**Program of Study 3:
Special Education Licensure Program: Degree Other Than Education**

Special Education Core	Credit Equivalent
SPED Module 1 Learner Development & Individual Learning/Cultural Differences	3
SPED Module 2 Legal/Ethical Practices & Professional Learning	3
SPED Module 3 Curricular Content Knowledge & Individual Education Plans	3
SPED Module 4 Assessment & Measurement	3
SPED Module 5 Understanding & Managing Behavior	3
SPED Module 6 Instructional Planning, Strategies, & Transition	3
SPED Module 7 Collaboration, Consultation, & Supervision	3
SPED Module 8 Inclusive Learning Environments	3
SPED 550 Special Education Internship 700 Hour Clinical Practice Requirement: On-the-Job	2-7
Professional Education Core	
ED Module 9 Pedagogy: The Art and Science of Teaching	3
ED Module 10 Reading Methods: Elementary	3
ED Module 11 Math Methods: Elementary	3
Total Credits	35-40

**Program of Study 4:
Special Education Technician Program: Associate's Degree or No Degree**

Special Education Core	Credit Equivalent
SPED Module 1 Learner Development & Individual Learning/Cultural Differences	3
SPED Module 1L Learner Development & Individual Learning/Cultural Differences Lab	2
SPED Module 2 Legal/Ethical Practices & Professional Learning	3
SPED Module 2L Legal/Ethical Practices & Professional Learning Lab	2
SPED Module 7 Collaboration, Consultation, & Supervision	3
SPED Module 7L Collaboration, Consultation, & Supervision Lab	2
Special Education Technician Core	
SPED TECH 101 Individualized Education/Family Service Programs	3
SPED TECH 101L Individualized Education/Family Service Programs	2
SPED TECH 102 Behavior Management in Educational Settings	3
SPED TECH 102L Behavior Management in Educational Settings Lab	2
SPED TECH 103 Curriculum-Based Evaluations for Assessment	3
SPED TECH 103L Curriculum-Based Evaluations for Assessment Lab	2
SPED TECH 104 High Leverage Practices for High Incidence Disabilities	3
SPED TECH 104L High Leverage Practices for High Incidence Disabilities Lab	2
SPED TECH 110 Special Education Technician Practicum	7
Total Credits	42