

# SPECIAL EDUCATION, B.S.

**Begin Campus:** Any Penn State Campus

**End Campus:** University Park

## Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Science degree in Special Education, a minimum of 122 credits is required (See also Teacher Education Programs (<https://ed.psu.edu/academics/teacher-testing-certification/>)):

Requirement	Credits
General Education	45
Electives	6
Requirements for the Major	89

18 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes: 6 credits of GQ courses; 6 credits of GS courses; 6 credits of GH courses.

## Requirements for the Major

A grade of C or better per course is required for all Special Education prerequisites and teacher certification.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Prescribed Courses</b>		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better for all Special Education prerequisites and teacher certification</i>		
CI 280	Introduction to Teaching English Language Learners	3
EDPSY 14	Learning and Instruction	3
EDPSY 101	Analysis and Interpretation of Statistical Data in Education	3
EDTHP 115	Education in American Society	3
MATH 200	Problem Solving in Mathematics	3
PSYCH 100	Introductory Psychology	3
PSYCH 212	Introduction to Developmental Psychology	3
SPLED 395W	**SPECIAL TOPICS**	3
SPLED 401	Motivating Exceptional Learners	4
SPLED 404	Working with Families and Professionals in Special Education	3
SPLED 409A	Fundamental Literacy Skills for Students with Special Needs	3
SPLED 409B	Writing and Content Literacy for Students with Special Needs	3
SPLED 409C	Mathematics Instruction for Students with Special Needs	3
SPLED 410	Culturally Responsive Pedagogy in Special Education	3
SPLED 411	Intervention for Students with Severe Disabilities	3
SPLED 412	Instruction for Students with Mild Disabilities	3
SPLED 415	Early Special Education	3
SPLED 418	Technologies for Persons with Disabilities	3
SPLED 425	Foundations of Special Education, Etiologies, Law, and Implications for Practice	3
SPLED 454	Assessment for Instruction	3

SPLED 495D	Professional Development for Special Education Teacher Candidates	3
SPLED 495E	Experience with Exceptional Children	3
SPLED 495F	Practicum in Special Education	12
SPLED 495G	Experience with an Integrated Inclusion Classroom	4

### Additional Courses

*Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better for all Special Education prerequisites and teacher certification*

EDPSY 10	Individual Differences and Education	3
or EDPSY 11	Educational Implications of Individual Differences in Childhood	

Select 3 credits from the following: 3

CSD 218	American Sign Language I	
RHS 402	Children and Families in Rehabilitation Settings and Human Services	
RHS 403	Medical Aspects of Disability	
RHS 404	Rehabilitation Services for Transition Age Youth with Disabilities: Theory and Practice	
RHS/LHR 410	Employment Strategies for People with Disabilities	
RHS 433	Trauma-informed care for school & human service professionals	
SPLED 461	Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders: Issues and Concerns	
SPLED 462	Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis	

## General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/>) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

### Foundations (grade of C or better is required and Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- Quantification (GQ): 6 credits
- Writing and Speaking (GWS): 9 credits

### Breadth in the Knowledge Domains (Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- Arts (GA): 3 credits
- Health and Wellness (GHW): 3 credits
- Humanities (GH): 3 credits
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS): 3 credits
- Natural Sciences (GN): 3 credits

### Integrative Studies

- Inter-Domain Courses (Inter-Domain): 6 credits

## Exploration

- **GN**, may be completed with Inter-Domain courses: 3 credits
- **GA, GH, GN, GS, Inter-Domain courses**. This may include 3 credits of World Language course work beyond the 12th credit level or the requirements for the student's degree program, whichever is higher: 6 credits

## University Degree Requirements

### First Year Engagement

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

### Cultures Requirement

6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

### Writing Across the Curriculum

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

### Total Minimum Credits

A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

### Quality of Work

Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

### Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition

The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80>)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.