GRADUATE-Level Teacher Certification Checklist (Graduate-level Post-Baccalaureate) SPECIAL EDUCATION (Grades K-12)

Education department

POST BACCALAUREATE STUDENTS ARE ONLY ELIGIBLE TO TAKE COURSES REQUIRED FOR CERTIFICATION. NON-CERTIFICATION COURSES ARE NOT COVERED BY FINANCIAL AID.

Professional Education Requirements

Post Baccalaureates may choose to take the Graduate equivalency to the undergraduate courses required for certification; graduate equivalencies will apply both towards certification and masters' degree. Ex. EDUC 200 = EDUC 542; 542 will meet certification requirement and apply towards MAT degree. Equivalent courses are in the "Grad Equivalent" column. Note: not all certification courses have graduate equivalencies.

Grade	Course #	Course Title	Cr Hrs	Grad Equivalent	Field Experience (observation hrs) included
	Choose one	EDUC 396 – Child and Adolescent Development or PSYC 330 – Lifespan Developmental Psychology	3	EDUC 550	none
	SOCI 270	Diversity and Society	3	EDUC 555	none
	EDUC 200	Law, Ethics, and Education	3	EDUC 542	15 hrs
	EDUC 220	Methods of Teaching English Learners *(NOTE: if EDUC 542 taken prior to Fall 2020, EDUC 220/520 not required)*	3	EDUC 520	none
	EDUC 230	Educational Psychology	3	EDUC 560	none
	EDUC 300	Techniques of Teaching	3	EDUC 505	15 hrs
	EDUC 390	Education & Psychology of the Exceptional Child	3	EDUC 525	none
		Admission to the Teacher Certification Program (See Teacher Certification Program checklist)			
	EDUC 311	Classroom Management Techniques	3	EDUC 563	15 hrs
	EDUC 322	Educational Measurement and Assessment	3	EDUC 580	none
	EDUC 331	Teaching of Reading	3	EDUC 558	15 hrs
	EDUC 337W	Teaching Language Arts in Middle & Elementary Schools	3	EDUC 537	none
	EDUC 338W	Content Reading and Writing	3	EDUC 516	15 hrs
	EDUC 352	Teaching Science to Elementary Children	3	n/a	none
	EDUC 354	Teaching Social Studies to Elementary Children	3	n/a	none
	EDUC 358	Teaching Math in the Elementary School	3	n/a	15 hrs
	EDUC 376	Adolescent Literacy	3	EDUC 578	none
	EDUC 380W	Diagnostic and Corrective Reading	3	EDUC 590	none
	EDUC 514	Mathematics for the Special Needs Child (Remedial)	3	same	none
	EDUC 515	Language Development for the Exceptional Child	3	same	none
	EDUC 528	Methods, Including Assistive Technology, for Teaching Mild/Moderate Cross-Categorical Students	3	same	none
	EDUC 546	Perspectives on Family, Community, and Political Involvement in Public Schools	3	same	none
	EDUC 547	Career Counseling Including Children with Special Needs	3	same	none

	EDUC 548	Communications-Counseling, Conferencing, and Confronting	3	same	none
	EDUC 562	Behavior Management Techniques	3	same	none
	EDUC 574	Evaluation of Individual Abilities and Achievement	3	same	none
	EDUC 400	Senior Seminar	3	n/a	none
		Approval for Student Teaching (See Student Teaching Checklist)			
	EDUC 425	Undergraduate Student Teaching (Elem & Sec placements required)*	12/9	EDUC 698	16 weeks
		Total Credit Hours	87-90		
		Approval for DESE certification recommendation (See DESE Certification checklist)			

**See Student Teaching page of CC website for differences and similarities between EDUC 425 and EDUC 698.*

Retention Criteria:

- Complete at least 6 hours of professional education each year
- Complete Field Experiences and receive favorable evaluations from cooperating teachers and college supervisors
- Maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above in professional education courses and GPA of 2.5 or above in content area courses

Other requirements that must be completed prior to certification:

- Successful completion/passing of appropriate Content Area Assessment
- Successful completion of program certification performance assessment – MEES

Other Requirements:

Post-Baccalaureate certification students completing the FAFSA to receive financial aid for certification must complete the following questions on the 2026-27 FAFSA accordingly:

Section 4 – Student College or Career School Plans:

- "When the student begins the 2026-27 school year, what will their college grade level be?" – Answer "Other undergraduate (junior year and beyond)"
- "When the student begins the 2026-27 school year, will they already have their first bachelor's degree?" – Answer "Yes"
- "Will the student be pursuing an initial teaching certification at the elementary or secondary level?" – Answer "Yes"

https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa

Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) degree

If you are planning to pursue the MAT degree after certification you will need to relay that information to your Education advisor since that may determine how many certification courses you should take at the graduate level. (In some cases, taking all of the graduate options would result in your taking more than the 36 hours needed for the degree.) The MAT degree requires a total of 36 hours of EDUC coursework at the graduate level which includes 15 hours of core courses (EDUC 500, 504, 508, 555, and 560). Therefore, be sure to take EDUC 555 (instead of SOCI 270) and EDUC 560 (instead of EDUC 230) since they work both for certification and the MAT degree. The other graduate-level courses for certification can be taken to count toward the 21 hours of electives required for the MAT. Recommend taking the following: EDUC 555 and EDUC 560 for the MAT core, and EDUC 698 and four additional graduate-level courses from this certification checklist for the MAT electives.)

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