

Missouri State University

Springfield

www.missouristate.edu

Post-Baccalaureate Teacher Certification Special Education - Cross-Categorical (K-12)

Career Preparation

The Cross-Categorical, (K-12) Special Education program provides experiences that prepare students to become effective teachers for children with special needs. If you are interested in helping to make a difference in the lives of special needs children and youth, you may wish to consider Special Education as a career. Trends indicate that employment opportunities for special education graduates have increased significantly. Salaries are in the \$21,000 to \$26,000 range, depending on the geographic area, but may be considerably more due to the need for Special Education teachers.

The program is approved by the Missouri State Board of Education and is accredited by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and by NCATE.

Academic Program

The Special Education Post-Baccalaureate program requires satisfactory completion of a minimum of 106 hours. This sequence is designed to provide a basic content background in subject-matter areas related to Special Education programs. Professional education courses are sequenced to provide both study in the University setting and practical experience in the Special Education educational setting.

Courses

Students pursuing Post-Baccalaureate certification at Missouri State University must submit official transcripts from all colleges and universities previously attended. Prior coursework will be evaluated and all equivalent coursework will be applied toward current certification requirements. Once the transcript analysis has been completed, students are encouraged to submit course descriptions for courses that were not initially determined equivalent, but may have provided the competencies required for certification. Students seeking Post-Baccalaureate certification are given an Individualized Program of Study, but must meet current state requirements determined by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) when applying for certification.

Faculty

The faculty offices are located in Hill Hall. One hundred percent of the faculty holds doctoral degrees. Faculty members are actively involved in teaching, research, and service activities at the local, state, and national levels. While the faculty provides informal advisement to the students, the Coordinator of Teacher Certification advises Post-Baccalaureate students.

Facilities

The University is fortunate to have Greenwood Laboratory School located on campus. Greenwood, a K-12 laboratory school, provides students in Special Education with firsthand experience in observing and working with students. Also, the technology laboratories located in Hill Hall have the most recent innovations in instructional technology available for use by Special Education majors.

Special Opportunities & Services

A student majoring in Special Education has the opportunity to become involved in a variety of student organizations. Among the organizations available to Education majors are the Student Council for Exceptional Children (SCEC), Student Missouri State Teachers Association, the Student National Education Association, and Kappa Delta Pi, the honorary organization for Education majors. These organizations provide students with opportunities for professional growth and the opportunity to meet students and professionals with similar interests.

Because the University and the College of Education are committed to the student's success beyond the classroom, Career Services, in cooperation with the School of Teacher Education, takes an active role in helping students secure teaching positions after they are certified. Students are encouraged to contact Career Services for job search assistance.

For More Information

Coordinator
Office Of Teacher Certification
Missouri State University
901 South National Avenue
Springfield, Missouri 65804
Office: 417-836-8772 Fax: 417-836-8773
Email: teachercertification@missouristate.edu
www.missouristate.edu

