



Name:

Student ID:

You are seeking acceptance into one of the below Special Education programs:

02.19

	<b>Special Education Certification = 27 credits</b> Specify grade level: PK-8      7-12
	<b>Master of Science – Education, Special Education + Special Education Certification = 36 credits</b> Specify grade level: PK-8      7-12

For Master’s degree students, are you adding on any of the below endorsements or programs?

	Autism Spectrum Disorder Endorsement (12 credits) = MS-Education, SPE + SPE Certification + ASD credits = 39 credits
	Wilson Reading System Certification (10 credits) = MS-Education, SPE + SPE Certification + WRS = 37 credits
	Autism Spectrum Disorder Endorsement (12 credits) AND Wilson Reading System Certification (10 credits) = MS-Education, SPE + SPE Certification + ASD credits + WRS Certification = 49 credits

OR

	No, I am seeking the General Track option. = MS-Education, SPE + SPE Certification + three 3-credit general electives = 36 credits
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**NOTE: If you have a documented disability, you are highly encouraged to contact the Office of Student Disability Services at SJU (<https://sites.sju.edu/thesuccesscenter/sds/>). Please realize that some accommodations (e.g. closed captioning) may take time to set up. It would behoove you to send an email to Dr. Chris Mecke ([cmecke@sju.edu](mailto:cmecke@sju.edu)) and Ms. Pat Gregg ([pgregg@sju.edu](mailto:pgregg@sju.edu)) at least two (2) weeks prior to the beginning of a semester to request accommodations.**

**Program of Study has to be approved by the Graduate Director or the Department Chair**

Core Courses Course Number/Name	Credits	Semester Planned	Semester Taken	Final Grade
<b>Special Education Certification Courses: (27 credits)</b>				
* Note SPE 600, SPE 602 and SPE 608 may have been taken at the undergraduate level.				
<b>SPE 600/600F</b> Foundations and Current Issues: Special Education	3			
<b>SPE 608/608F</b> Families, Schools and Communities: Communication and Collaboration	3			
<b>SPE 602/602F</b> Diagnostic Assessment and Progress Monitoring	3			
<b>SPE 603/603F</b> Theory and Instructional Practice: Students With High Incidence Disabilities	3			
<b>SPE 604/604F</b> Research-Based Models & Procedures: Literature, Written & Oral Language, Reading/Content Area	3			
<b>SPE 605/605F</b> Research-Based Models & Procedures: Mathematics and Science Procedures	3			
<b>SPE 606</b> Theory & Instructional Practice: Students w/ Emotional/Social & Behavioral Disabilities	3			
<b>SPE 607/607F</b> Theory & Instructional Practice: Students With Low Incidence Disabilities	3			
<b>SPE 638/638F</b> Inclusive Classroom Practice; Student/Intern Teaching (PK-8) <b>OR SPE 639/639F</b> Inclusive Adolescent Classroom Practice; Student/Intern Teaching (7-12)	3			

Signature:

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Electives (for MS SPE Cert + General Track option) <span style="float: right;">02.19</span>				
<b>SPE 616</b>	Perspectives on Gifted Education and Talent Development	3		
<b>SPE 630</b>	Design and Technologies for Differentiated Instruction	3		
<b>SPE 700</b>	School Law and Policy: Special Education Issues	3		
<b>SPE 701</b>	Cognitive Processes: Research-Based Brain Studies for the Education	3		
<b>SPE 702</b>	Culturally Responsive Teaching	3		
<b>SPE 720</b>	Introduction to ASD: Overview of Causality, Diagnosis and Advocacy	3		

Autism Spectrum Disorder Endorsement (for MS SPE Cert + ASD Endorsement option)				
<b>SPE 720/720F</b>	Introduction to ASD: Overview of Causality, Diagnosis and Advocacy**	3		
<b>SPE 721/721F</b>	Augmentative and Alternative Communication and Socialization Strategies	3		
<b>SPE 722/722F</b>	Evidenced-Based Practices: Assessment, Interventions, & Instructional Methodologies	3		
<b>SPE 723/723F</b>	Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis: Behavior Management Approaches	3		
** SPE 720 must be taken as the first ASDE course.		12 credits total		

Wilson Reading System Certification (for MS SPE Cert + WRS option)				
<b>SPE 710</b>	Introductory Workshop: Introduction to Multisensory Structured Language Instruction	1		
<b>SPE 711</b>	Basic Word Study 1-3: Intensive Instruction for the Non-Responsive Reader	3		
<b>SPE 712</b>	Basic Word Study 4-6: Intensive Instruction for the Non-Responsive Reader	3		
<b>SPE 713</b>	Wilson Certification Course Clinical: Intensive Instruction for the Non-Responsive Reader (Practicum)	3		
SPE 710 must be completed prior to SPE 711, 712, and 713. SPE 711 and SPE 713 are taken together. SPE 712 must be taken in the semester following SPE 711.		10 credits total		

Do you have prior graduate coursework you would like reviewed for possible transfer credit?      NO      YES

Transferred/Waived Courses (as applicable):


Signature:

Date:



Name:

Student ID:

**Record of Understanding**

By initialing in the boxes to the right, you are acknowledging that you have read and understand the below requirements.

**Program Requirements**

02.19

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bachelor’s Degree with Instructional I Certification, 3.0 GPA, Two Letters of Recommendation, Resume, Personal Statement</li> </ul>	<b>Initial here</b>
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**Required Clearances for the Program**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Saint Joseph’s University students who have direct contact with children by participating in a classroom teaching, internship, clinical or field experience who, as part of a program for the initial or advanced preparation of professional educators, performs classroom teaching or assists in the education program in a public or private school, intermediate unit or area vocational-technical school under the supervision of educator preparation program faculty, must comply with existing federal, state and local statues pertaining to Criminal History Records and other background clearances including mandated communicable disease testing.</li> <li>All students must read, sign, and submit the Saint Joseph’s Statement Regarding Background Clearances at the time of admissions.</li> <li>Students are responsible for updating their clearances as determined by their state and/ or employers.</li> </ul> <p><u>You are required to submit the below documents with your application:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Fingerprinting &amp; Criminal Record Check</li> <li>Tuberculosis skin test</li> <li>Pennsylvania Child Abuse Check (if residing/working in PA)</li> <li>PA State Police Criminal Record Check (if residing/working in PA)</li> </ul> <p><b>OR</b> Official Letter from Current School/District, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Verification: dates of employment</li> <li>Statement that clearances are in good standing per school/district requirements</li> <li>Official school/district letterhead</li> <li>Dated</li> <li>Hand signature of authorized party with contact information</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is the responsibility of the student to meet clearance requirements for any school in which they plan to complete field experiences/student teaching.</li> </ul>	<b>Initial here</b>
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**Field Experience Requirements**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) requires all teacher candidates to complete Field Experience competencies in certification programs. The Special Education Department at SJU has designated required Field Experience competency activities to each course in the required curriculum to meet the state standards.</li> <li>It is the student’s responsibility to ensure placement within a range of both general and special education classrooms to complete the required Field Experience hours.</li> <li>Students are encouraged to complete Field Experience hours in a variety of classrooms.</li> <li>Field Experience hours must be completed in the same semester that the student is taking the corresponding course.</li> <li>Submit completed Field Experience Verification forms to your course instructor.</li> </ul>	<b>Initial here</b>
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Signature:

Date:

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**Student Teaching Requirements**

02.19

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candidates who have completed a full-term student teaching for another certificate are required to complete a minimum of 140 hours modified student teaching within either SPE 638 (SPE certification PK-8) or SPE 639 (SPE certification 7-12). This is generally accomplished over a 4-week period, however it may extend beyond four weeks to meet 140 hours target.</li> <li>• NOTE: Student/Intern Teaching should be conducted after <u>all</u> required core coursework is complete. All students are required to obtain a minimum of a 3.0 GPA at Saint Joseph's University to qualify for Student/Intern Teaching and PA certification.</li> <li>• ALL students must complete an application for student teaching and submit it by one of the deadlines listed below. <b>**Late applications will NOT be accepted**</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 15 – Application deadline for students who wish to student teach in the following Spring semester</li> <li>• January 15 - Application deadline for students who wish to student teach in the following Fall semester</li> </ul> </li> <li>• For more information regarding student teaching, go to sites.sju.edu/education. Teacher Candidate Resources are available under the Student Teaching option.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Initial here</b></p>
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**Notes on Special Education Certification**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently the Pennsylvania Department of Education offers <b>two Instructional Certificates in Special Education</b>, namely Special Education PK-8 and Special Education 7-12.<sup>1</sup></li> <li>• Candidates must meet the following requirements to be eligible to apply for SPE certification in Pennsylvania:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hold a valid content area Instructional Certificate as follows:                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ For SPE PK-8, a candidate must hold a valid elementary (e.g., N-3, K-6, PK-4) certificate or a valid middle years (e.g., 5-6, 7-9, 4-8) certificate.</li> <li>▪ For SPE 7-12, a candidate must hold a valid subject area secondary 7-12 certificate.</li> <li>▪ Candidates who hold a valid PK-12 instructional certificate (e.g., Art, Music, Modern Language, Health &amp; Physical Education, Reading Specialist) are eligible for either SPE PK-8 and/or SPE 7-12.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Complete an approved program of study with a minimum 3.00 program GPA, including a modified student teaching<sup>2</sup>. SPE PK-8 and SPE 7-12 are NOT available as ADD ON areas via testing only.</li> <li>3. Obtain qualifying scores on the required Pennsylvania Educator Certification Tests (PECT)<sup>2</sup> as follows:                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Special Education PK-8 Modules 1 &amp; 2</li> <li>▪ Special Education 7-12 Modules 1 &amp; 2</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p>1) <i>As of December 31, 2021, SPE PK-8 and SPE 7-12 will be combined into a single SPE PK-12 certificate in Pennsylvania. Also, the requirement for a candidate to hold a content area certificate will be eliminated and the SPE PK-12 will be a stand-alone certificate. More information regarding the specific requirements for the new certificate will be forthcoming from the PA Department of Education.</i></p> <p>2) <i>Information on PECT tests may be found at: <a href="https://www.pa.nesinc.com/">https://www.pa.nesinc.com/</a></i></p> </li> <li>• Upon passing of the appropriate professional testing and core certification courses, candidates may apply for certification in the State of Pennsylvania, by accessing the Teacher Information Management System (TIMS) website of the Pennsylvania Department of Education.</li> <li>• <u>It is recommended that candidates seeking special education certification outside of Pennsylvania, obtain a Pennsylvania special education certificate and then apply for reciprocity.</u> Often there are additional individual state requirements beyond reciprocity.</li> <li>• <b>It is the candidate's responsibility to become aware of all requirements regarding certification outside of Pennsylvania prior to enrolling in an educator preparation program at Saint Joseph's University.</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Initial here</b></p>
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**I have been advised and understand all the requirements of this program and my responsibilities.**

Signature:

Date:



Name:

Student ID:

## Statement Regarding Background Clearances

I will be participating in clinical field experiences, including practicums and student teaching in the following location(s):

02.19

CITY/TOWN	CITY/TOWN
STATE/REGION	STATE/REGION
COUNTRY	COUNTRY
BEGIN DATE	BEGIN DATE

If more than two locations please check box:

Please indicate agreement by initialing the following statements:

I understand that I may not participate in clinical field experiences, including practicums and student teaching until I have signed and presented this document to the Saint Joseph's University Teacher/ Administrator Preparation Program administrator.	<b>Initial here</b>
I have determined to the best of my ability that the following Criminal History Records Information and other background checks including communicable disease testing requirements for my location are as follows	<b>Initial here</b>

Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Fingerprinting & Criminal Record Check	
Tuberculosis skin test	
Pennsylvania Child Abuse Check (if residing/working in PA)	
PA State Police Criminal Record Check (if residing/working in PA)	
Other	

I hereby affirm that I have taken the necessary measures to be in compliance with all of the requirements listed above and I will maintain current and valid documentation of the requirements throughout my participation in the program.

Signature:

Date: