

Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania

**College of Education
Department of Exceptionality Programs**

Special Education Supervisory Certification Program

About the Program:

This program is designed for graduate students seeking to develop the skills and knowledge required to provide administrative leadership in educational settings that serve individuals with disabilities. The completion of this program, in addition to select criteria identified by the PA Department of Education, will qualify an individual for certification as a Supervisor of Special Education. It is designed to prepare entry-level leaders in the field of special education administration. Graduates may be found in leadership roles in state departments of education, school districts, intermediate units, approved private schools, detention centers, colleges and universities, social service agencies, and consulting firms.

The focus of this program is directed toward the practical application of administrative theory and school governance. This program is unique in that it will extend beyond the limits of the university classroom, into the interdisciplinary realm of the public school. A collaborative instructional design will be utilized during the summer course offerings to provide for a collegial and cooperative educational experience.

This program is a collaborative effort between the Department of Exceptionality Programs and the Department of Educational Studies and Secondary Education at Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania. This integrated approach to instruction between regular and general educators is highly useful for professionals entering the public school domain where similar collaboration is central to success.

Design:

This program was redesigned to address the evolving role of the special education supervisor within the public school setting. The core content and instructional design are based upon the recommendations of practicing administrators from across Pennsylvania, as well as state and national professional standards. The program involves a one-calendar year design for those individuals who have completed their graduate coursework. It also may be integrated into a graduate student's current course of study, for those completing their graduate requirements. Students must have completed, or plan to complete, all Pennsylvania certification requirements for Special Education.

Course Requirements:

This program consists of five (5) courses and a six-credit internship. The sequence of courses required for completion of this program includes:

Administration

EDFOUND 573 – Intro to Educ Admin.
SPECED 501 – Admin/Supv of Special Education

School Law

SPECED 502 – Prin of Special Education Law

Curriculum Development

SPECED 503 – Curricular Design & Inclusive Educ

Current Knowledge

SPECED 575 – Current Issues in Special Educ

Practicum Field Experience

SPECED 595 – Internship

Students who have completed select courses within this sequence during previous graduate work will be provided with an adapted course sequence as appropriate. To determine the course of study you must complete, see the Graduate Program Coordinator.

Note: The supervisory program (21 credits) can be imbedded within the program of study of the Master of Science in Special Education.

Pennsylvania Requirements for Certification (as taken from the PDE website*):

Issuance of the Single Area Supervisory Certificate requires a minimum of five years of professional school experience **in the area for which the certificate is sought [i.e., Special Education]**. Preparation for this professional certificate is at the graduate level and presumes in-depth study in the area of supervision. A person prepared as a Single Area Supervisor may be eligible for certification provided the applicant:

1. Has completed an approved program of graduate study preparing him/her for the responsibilities of supervising in the specified single program area and of directing the activities of certificated professional employees. (Preparation completed out-of-state must meet Pennsylvania standards for certification.)
2. Is recommended for certification by the authorized certification officer of the institution where such education was obtained, or holds a comparable certificate from another state (for out-of-state graduates only).
3. Provides a chief school administrator's verification of the completion of five years of satisfactory professional school experience as mentioned above. (22 PA Code Section 49.111).
4. Has provided evidence of satisfactory achievement on assessments prescribed by the Department under Section 49.18(a). [PRAXIS Specialty Area Test:0411 (Paper) and 5411 (Computer); Qualifying Score of 143]
5. Is able to meet all other requirements provided by law.

*Please see <http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=514&objID=506759&mode=2> for additional requirements for PDE certification and for any updates as certification requirements may change over time.

Application Requirements:

This program sequence may begin at any time. Admission requirements and application may be made through the Graduate School at <http://www.bloomu.edu/gradschool> . Interested students who are currently enrolled in the graduate program must submit a letter of intent to the Graduate Program Coordinator prior to enrollment. Please contact Dr. Darlene Perner, Graduate Program Coordinator at (570) 389-4075 for more information on this program.