

Vermont State University  
Spring 2024

*Graduate Certificate: Special Education Teacher Preparation*

The graduate certificate in Special Educator Teacher Preparation provides training for working special educators without licenses. Participants will receive instruction in both the Vermont Core Teaching Standards and the Special Education Endorsement standards. Completion of the course sequence and a supervised student teaching/capstone experience will allow a student to apply for licensure and endorsement via transcript review from the Vermont Agency of Education.

Course credits can be transferred into a master's program via Vermont State University.

Requirements

Complete the following core courses:

- Practical Planning and Assessment (Summer) (3 credits)
- Classroom Management, Differentiation, and Learner Development (Fall) (3 credits)
- Law and Ethics (Winter) (3 credits)
- Content Specific Knowledge (Spring) (3 credits)

The following courses are optional to complete the graduate certificate, but required to apply for transcript review:

- EDU 6850 (or equivalent) Student Teaching (6 credits)
- EDU 6970 Capstone (3 credits)

Notes

- Students must be employed as a full-time special educator with a state-granted waiver to enter the program and to complete it. Provide proof of employment as a special educator is required to enter the program.
- Leaving your employment for any reason will result in withdrawal from the program.
- Courses are encouraged be taken in order; a student who is hired as a special educator and granted an emergency license during the school year could join the next course but all four core courses must be completed prior to eligibility for student teaching.
- All courses are online, with either synchronous or asynchronous Zoom instruction.
- Certificate will be granted upon completion of the requirements.
- The Vermont Standards Board for Professional Educators has noted the following: "Candidates who complete the proposed NVU/VtSU special education course sequence to apply for initial licensure with a special education endorsement. This waiver would be in place through February 2026, at which time the board would review the program and determine future approval."

Contact Information:

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