

## Higher Education Alternative Programs

	Southern Oregon University
<b>General Description</b>	<p>Stand-Alone Initial License Program - An initial teaching licensure and Master's Degree program for candidates who are college graduates and want to teach in special education settings. It is a full-time program, culminating in an initial teaching license and a Master's Degree in Education.</p> <p>The Dual Program is for the candidate who is already a licensed teacher. Throughout the regular academic year the courses take place in the evenings except for the summer and spring terms, and are spread over a twelve-month period. Candidates may also complete requirements for a Masters Degree in Education as part of this program.</p> <p>The Dual Endorsement Program has an optional two-year completion track. Both the Stand Alone and Dual Endorsement Programs are offered via distance learning technology to off-campus sites during the regular academic terms (Fall, Winter, Spring).</p> <p>Refer to web site: <a href="http://www.sou.edu/Education/sped/index.html">http://www.sou.edu/Education/sped/index.html</a></p>
<b>School District Partners</b>	Ashland, Phoenix-Talent, Medford, Central Point, Eagle Point, Three Rivers, Rogue River, Grants Pass, Roseburg, Klamath City, Klamath County, Brookings, Gold Beach, Coos Bay, Southern Oregon Educational Services District
<b>Contact Information</b>	Dr. Gregg Gassman, Program Coordinator 541.552.6095 / <a href="mailto:gassmang@sou.edu">gassmang@sou.edu</a>
<b>Entrance Requirements</b>	<p>Passing scores - CBEST or Praxis PPST</p> <p>3.0 cum. Grade point average last 90 quarter credits of undergraduate program</p> <p>Pre-requisite course in foundations of Special Education; Strongly recommended:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Mathematics for elementary teachers</p> <p>Documented experience with children, experience with children with exceptionalities preferred</p> <p>2 letters of recommendation</p> <p>Completed essays</p> <p>On-campus interview</p>
<b>Number of Participants</b>	25 to 30

<b>Target Participants</b>	Students seeking Initial Licensure in Special Education; inservice teachers seeking added endorsement in special education
<b>Length of Program</b>	13 months (June to July), with optional two year program
<b>Hours earned (Differentiate between Quarters and Semesters)</b>	Stand Alone (license plus Masters Degree in Education): 70 quarter hours Added Endorsement, plus Masters Degree in Education: 58 to 62 quarter hours Added Endorsement Only: 38 to 42 quarter hours
<b>License earned</b>	Initial License, with endorsement in Special Education, cross-categorical, at either ECE/Elementary or Middle/High School authorization level
<b>Graduate/Master's Program</b>	Master's Degree in Education
<b>Undergraduate</b>	Education Minor; for those students tracking into the Special Education Program, a course of study is designed to emphasize working with special education settings
<b>Continuing Teaching License</b>	12 quarter credits (3 credit portfolio, 9 credits of relevant course work)
<b>Courses (List All)</b>	Refer to web site: <a href="http://www.sou.edu/Education/sped/course_of_study.html">http://www.sou.edu/Education/sped/course_of_study.html</a>
<b>Program Content</b>	The program is designed to prepare special educators to work in a variety of settings, across all categories of exceptionalities. We have strong emphasis on assessment practices, behavior management, and academic and functional interventions; as well as collaboration and consultation with general education faculty.
<b>Field Experiences (i.e. Student Teaching, Internships)</b>	Special Education courses (those designated with SPED prefix) have lab experiences attached in order to apply in the field skills and information gained in courses. Students in the Stand Alone Program engage in a full time "September Experience" after the first summer session; half-day/four days a week during the Fall term; half-days/five days a week in the Winter term; and full day student teaching in the Spring term. For Dual Endorsement students, the length of time varies based on placement and prior experience.

<b>Delivery Models (i.e. Distance Education, Seminar, Face to Face Instruction)</b>	The SOU Special Education Program during the regular academic terms (Fall, Winter, and Spring) are offered face-to-face and distance delivery via VTEL and web-based modalities
<b>Retention/Mentoring Information</b>	All mentors associated with the SOU Special Education Program are trained through the Oregon Teacher Recruitment and Mentoring Program. We are currently developing an induction program for candidates employed by partnership school districts.
<b>Exit Requirements</b>	Successful completion of all course work and field experiences; completion of work samples (2 for Stand Alone candidates; 1 for Dual Endorsement Candidates); a professional portfolio; and passing PRAXIS exam 0352. Candidates are strongly encouraged to complete the ORELA to obtain "Highly Qualified" status.
<b>Completed cohorts</b>	The SOU Program has been in existence for over 20 years. The current program was revised during 2003-2004.
<b>Unique Characteristics of the Program</b>	All courses are offered during the 4:00 to 7:00 time block during the regular academic terms, field experiences have increased to allow for successively more time in the setting from term-to-term; selected courses are taught by adjunct personnel from the field - either practicing special educators or ESD personnel. Students are actively engaged in action research activities and are encouraged to present their studies at regional and national conferences. Over the past 6 years, we have had a 90% employment rate for students immediately exiting the program; 98% employment rate for students within two years of exiting the program.
<b>Costs</b>	\$12,000 to \$20,000 depending on the program
<b>Address Disability Ranges &gt;&gt; Proportion of course work</b>	All exceptionalities. Mild / Moderate = 15% Severe / Profound = 6% Cross-categorical = 42% Major Field Experience (Student Teaching at the functional level chosen by the student) = 23% Nonspecific courses (eg, research, law and policy) = 14%
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The Dual Endorsement Program has optional two-year completion track. The SOU Special Education Program is offered via distance learning technology to off-campus sites in the Southern Oregon region during the regular academic terms.

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