

# PRIDE. CHALLENGE. ACHIEVEMENT.

CREDENTIAL YEAR 2017-18

## EDUCATION—SPECIAL EDUCATION

### Credentials

Special Needs Para Educator certificate	30 cr.
Special Needs Para Educator AAS degree	61-66 cr.

### Major Description

Working as a Para Educator requires persons to be supportive and nurturing while taking a strength-based perspective to match the strengths of each person with special needs. This curriculum contains theoretical and practical experiences designed to prepare students to work in public school special education classrooms, inclusive classrooms and resource rooms, institutional settings, sheltered workshops, job coaching programs, group homes or supported-living programs. Students learn to work effectively as members of professional educational and community based teams that support persons with disabilities.

Students can also transfer credits earned to a bachelor's degree program at a four-year institution.

### National Median Salaries for Special Needs Para Educator-related positions (source: US BLS)

Special Needs Paraprofessional: \$23,640

Teacher Assistant: \$23,640

Special Education Teacher: \$55,060

### Special Needs Para Educator Certificate

Schoolcraft program code # 1YC.00032

The Special Needs Para Educator certificate program provides an educational foundation for understanding neuro-typical and neuro-atypical human development. The program emphasizes a strength-based best practices model in preparing students to work with children and adults with special needs.

All courses are not offered each semester. Students should work with an academic advisor or counselor to develop a schedule that will work for them. Students who satisfactorily complete the program requirements qualify for a certificate of program completion.

### SAMPLE SCHEDULE OF COURSES

#### First Year—Fall Semester

#### First Year—Winter Semester

ECE 110	Child Development	3	SPE 135*	Emotional Impairment	3
SPE 100	Children with Special Needs	3	SPE 145**	Special Education Practical Experiences 1	3
SPE 105	Introduction to Developmental Disabilities	3	SPE 210	Methods and Curricula for Persons with Developmental Disabilities	3
SPE 115*	Special Educational Programs and Supported Living	3	SPE 220	Early Childhood Special Education	3
SPE 125*	Learning Disabilities	3	ECE 230	Classroom Behavior—Understanding Social Competence	3
	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>15</b>		<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>15</b>

### PROGRAM TOTAL 30 CREDITS

\* These classes are offered on a rotational basis.

\*\* Students in the Early Childhood and Special Education programs must adhere to the code of ethics of the National Association for the Education of Young Children and the Council for Exceptional Children along with the Early Childhood and Special Education Department policies. For field experience courses, students must earn a minimum grade of 2.5 to pass the course. Students may only have two attempts at completing SPE 145. Students who are not successful with the second attempt are not eligible to remain in the program. Prior to the start of practicum hours in SPE 145 students must present to their instructor the following:

- Michigan Department of Human Services Central Registry Clearance. The Michigan's Central Registry is a list of people who committed child abuse or neglect; as defined by The Child Protection Law.
- Michigan background check based upon requirements from the State of Michigan for Child Care Licensing. Schoolcraft College will complete the I-CHAT background check for each student.
- A current (within one year of their first day of their field experience) TB test with negative results.



It is the policy of Schoolcraft College that no person shall, on the basis of race, religion, color, gender, age, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, and/or national origin, be subjected to discrimination during or be excluded from participating in or be denied the benefits of any program or activity or in employment.



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## Special Needs Para Educator AAS Degree

Schoolcraft program code # AAS.00021

Working as a Para Educator requires persons to be supportive and nurturing while taking a strength-based perspective to the strengths of each person with special needs. This curriculum contains theoretical and practical experiences designed to prepare students to work in public school special education classrooms, inclusive classrooms and resource rooms, institutional settings, sheltered workshops, job coaching programs, group homes or supported-living programs. Students learn to work effectively as members of professional educational and community based teams that support persons with disabilities.

All courses are not offered each semester. Students should work with an academic advisor or counselor to develop a schedule that will work for them. Students who satisfactorily complete all college and program requirements qualify for an associate in applied science degree.

### SAMPLE SCHEDULE OF COURSES

#### First Year—Fall Semester

ECE 110	Child Development	3
SPE 100	Children with Special Needs	3
SPE 105	Introduction to Developmental Disabilities	3
ENG 101	English Composition 1	3
HUM	<i>Select one</i>	3-4
	<i>Recommended:</i>	
	Any World Language	
COMA 103	Fundamentals of Speech	
ENG 203	Children's Literature	
	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>15-16</b>

#### First Year—Winter Semester

ECE 170	Curriculum, Assessment and Technology	3
ECE 180	Child and Family Welfare Services	3
SPE 145*	Special Education Practical Experiences 1	3
SPE 220	Early Childhood Special Education	3
PSYCH 153	Human Relations	3
	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>15</b>

#### Second Year—Fall Semester

SPE 115	Special Education Programs and Supported Living	3
SPE 125*	Learning Disabilities	3
SPE 135*	Emotional Impairment	3
ECE 120	Creative Activities	3
ENG 102	English Composition 2	3
	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>15</b>

#### Second Year—Winter Semester

SPE 210	Methods and Curricula for Persons with Developmental Disabilities	3
SPE 270**	Special Education Practical Experiences 2	3
ECE 230	Classroom Behavior—Understanding Social Competence	3
ECE 280	Emerging Educator	1
MATH	<i>Select one</i>	3-5
	Science	<i>Select one</i>
	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>16-20</b>

### PROGRAM TOTAL 61-66 CREDITS

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