

EDUCATION—SPECIAL EDUCATION

Credentials

Special Needs Para Educator certificate	30 cr.
Special Needs Para Educator AAS degree	61-66 cr.
Autism Education Skills Certificate	19 cr.

Major Description

The Autism Education skills certificate is designed to provide students with the knowledge, skills and strategies for working with individuals with autism. Students may be current certified K-12 educators that would like to increase their understanding of autism, current or future paraeducators, and/or families of individuals with autism. The certificate provides the foundational information and direct experiences needed for increased understanding of educational protocol when working with individuals with autism.

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.

Autism Education Skills Certificate

Schoolcraft program code # CRT.00316

The Autism Education skills certificate provides a foundation in educating individuals with autism. The certificate is designed for exposure to the key elements of educating individuals with autism, including providing supervised field experiences. All courses are not offered each semester. 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 122 *	ASD Communication Strategies	3
SPE 100	Children with Special Needs	3	SPE 132 *	ASD Instructional Procedures	3
SPE 102*	Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD)	3	SPE 142 *	ASD Behavior Implications	3
	Total Credits	9	SPE 112	Applied Behavior Analysis	1
				Total Credits	10

PROGRAM TOTAL 19 CREDITS

**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.*

Prior to the start of Autism Field Experience in SPE ECE 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.

Not all courses are offered each semester. Students should work with an academic advisor or counselor to develop a schedule that will work for them.

Students planning to transfer should check the transfer institution's requirements/guides or discuss their options with an academic advisor or counselor. Number of credits may vary depending on the course selection.

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.

Students who satisfactorily complete the program requirements qualify for a certificate of program completion.

Special Needs Para Educator Certificate (continued)

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 & Curricula for Persons with Developmental Disabilities	3
SPE 115*	Special Educational Programs & Supported Living	3	SPE 220	Early Childhood Special Education	3
SPE 125*	Learning Disabilities	3	ECE 230	Classroom Behavior—Understanding Social Competence	3
	Total Credits	15		Total Credits	15

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.

Not all courses are offered each semester. Students should work with an academic advisor or counselor to develop a schedule that will work for them.

Students planning to transfer should check the transfer institution's requirements/guides or discuss their options with an academic advisor or counselor. Number of credits may vary depending on the course selection.

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.

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

First Year—Winter Semester

ECE 110	Child Development	3	ECE 170	Curriculum, Assessment & Technology	3
SPE 100	Children with Special Needs	3	ECE 180	Child & Family Welfare Services	3
SPE 105	Introduction to Developmental Disabilities	3	SPE 145*	Special Education Practical Experiences 1	3
ENG 101	English Composition 1	3	SPE 220	Early Childhood Special Education	3
Humanities	<i>Select General Education Humanities course</i>	3-4	PSYCH 153	Human Relations	3
	<i>Recommended: Any World Language</i>			Total Credits	15
COMA 103	Fundamentals of Speech				
ENG 203	Children's Literature				
	Total Credits	15-16			

Second Year—Fall Semester

Second Year—Winter Semester

SPE 115	Special Education Programs and Supported Living	3	SPE 210	Methods & Curricula for Persons with Developmental Disabilities	3
SPE 125*	Learning Disabilities	3	SPE 270**	Special Education Practical Experiences 2	3
SPE 135*	Emotional Impairment	3	ECE 230	Classroom Behavior—Understanding Social Competence	3
ECE 120	Creative Activities	3	ECE 280	Emerging Educator	1
ENG 102	English Composition 2	3	Mathematics	<i>Select General Education Mathematics course</i>	3-5
	Total Credits	15	Science	<i>Select General Education Science course</i>	3-5
				Total Credits	16-20

PROGRAM TOTAL 61-66 CREDITS

* These classes are offered on a rotational basis.

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Special Needs Para Educator AAS Degree (continued)

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 Not all courses are offered each semester. Students should work with an academic advisor or counselor to develop a schedule that will work for them.

Students planning to transfer should check the transfer institution's requirements/guides or discuss their options with an academic advisor or counselor. Number of credits may vary depending on the course selection.