

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES

Applicants to the Dual Certification Program in Early Childhood and Special Education should have completed at least 48 credits with a minimum overall GPA of 2.8. (Candidates must graduate with a GPA of at least 3.0 to obtain certification.) Students must satisfy the Pennsylvania state requirement of passing a test of basic skills in reading, writing, and mathematics—for example, the *Praxis* Core Academic Skills for Educators or the Pre-service Academic Performance Assessment (PAPA)—before admission to the program. Students who have (old) SAT scores of 1500 or above, with no individual test score below 500 meet the basic skills requirement. Students with (new) SAT scores of 26 in math, 27 in reading, and 28 in writing or a composite score of 51 meet the basic skills requirement.

(Certification in Early Childhood Education, Pre-K to 4 and Special Education, Pre-K to 8 requires a minimum overall GPA of 3.0, a total of 126.5 credits, the completion of a student teaching practicum, and successful completion of the Pennsylvania Educator Certification Tests, which are taken upon completion of the student teaching practicum in the senior year.)

Applications for admission should be submitted to the Field Placement and Certification Compliance Officer. Students must also submit proof of current clearances as listed below. Review of applications may take up to six weeks after all requirements have been submitted.

Admission Requirements

- A current TB test
- PA Child Abuse Clearance (ACT 151)
- PA Criminal Background Check (ACT 34)
- Federal Criminal History Records (ACT 114/Fingerprinting)
- Completed Arrest/Conviction Report and Certification Form (ACT 24)
- Completed a minimum of 48 credits of college-level coursework
- Fulfillment of the Basic Skills requirement as specified by the Pennsylvania Department of Education
- Cumulative GPA of at least 2.8
- Completion of at least six credits in college-level Mathematics
- Completion of three credits in college-level English Composition
- Completion of three credits in Literature