

259 --- Instructional strategist I and II - ALL: Due to content being competency driven, college/university recommendation may be required.

This endorsement authorizes instruction for students in K-12 mild and moderate instructional special education programs, students with behavior disorders and learning disabilities, and students with intellectual disabilities, from age 5 to age 21. The applicant must present evidence of having completed the following program requirements:

a. *Foundations of special education.* The philosophical, historical and legal bases for special education, including the definitions and etiologies of individuals with disabilities, exceptional child, and including individuals from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. A review of special education law, including progress monitoring, data collection, and individualized education plans.

Course #	Course Title	Institution	Semester Hr.	Year Completed

b. *Characteristics of learners.* Preparation which includes various etiologies of disabilities, an overview of current trends in educational programming for students with disabilities, educational alternatives and related services, and the importance of the multidisciplinary team in providing more appropriate educational programming from age 5 to age 21. This preparation must include the psychological characteristics of students with disabilities, including classroom learning, cognition, perception, memory, and language development; medical complications including seizure management, tube feeding, catheterization and CPR; the social-emotional aspects of disabilities including adaptive behavior, social competence, social isolation, and learned helplessness; and the social and emotional aspects including dysfunctional behaviors, mental health issues, at-risk behaviors, social imperceptiveness, and juvenile justice.

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c. *Assessment, diagnosis and evaluation.* Legal provisions, regulations and guidelines regarding unbiased assessment and use of psychometric instruments and instructional assessment measures with individuals with disabilities. Application of assessment results to individualized program development and management, and the relationship between assessment and placement decisions. Knowledge of any specialized strategies such as functional behavioral assessment and any specialized terminology used in the assessment of various disabling conditions. A review of special education law, including progress monitoring, data collection, and individualized education plans.

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d. Methods and strategies. Methods and strategies which include numerous models for providing curricular and instructional methodologies utilized in the education of individuals with disabilities. Curricula for the development of cognitive, academic, social, language and functional life skills for individuals with exceptional learning needs, and related instructional and remedial methods and techniques, including appropriate assistive technology. The focus of these experiences is for students at all levels from age 5 to age 21. This preparation must include alternatives for teaching skills and strategies to individuals with disabilities who differ in degree and nature of disability, and the integration of appropriate age- and ability-level academic instruction. Proficiency in adapting age-appropriate curriculum to facilitate instruction within the general education setting, to include partial participation of students in tasks, skills facilitation, collaboration, and support from peers with and without disabilities; the ability to select and use augmentative and alternative communications methods and systems. An understanding of the impact of speech-language development on behavior and social interactions. Approaches to create positive learning environments for individuals with special needs and approaches to utilize assistive devices for individuals with special needs. The design and implementation of age-appropriate instruction based on the adaptive skills of students with disabilities; integrate selected related services into the instructional day of students with disabilities. Knowledge of culturally responsive functional life skills relevant to independence in the community, personal living, and employment. Use of appropriate physical management techniques including positioning, handling, lifting, relaxation, and range of motion and the use and maintenance of orthotic, prosthetic, and adaptive equipment effectively.

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e. Managing student behavior and social interaction skills. Preparation in individual behavioral management, behavioral change strategies, and classroom management theories, methods, and techniques for individuals with exceptional learning needs. Theories of behavior problems in individuals with intellectual disabilities and the use of nonaversive techniques for the purpose of controlling targeted behavior and maintaining attention of individuals with disabilities. Design, implement, and evaluate instructional programs that enhance an individual's social participation in family, school, and community activities.

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f. Communication and collaborative partnerships. Awareness of the sources of unique services, networks, and organizations for individuals with disabilities including transitional support. Knowledge of family systems, family dynamics, parent rights, advocacy, multicultural issues, and communication to invite and appreciate many different forms of parent involvement. Strategies for working with regular classroom teachers, support services personnel, paraprofessionals, and other individuals involved in the educational program. Knowledge of the collaborative and consultative roles of special education teachers in the integration of individuals with disabilities into the general curriculum and classroom.

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g. Transitional collaboration. Sources of services, organizations, and networks for individuals with intellectual disabilities, including career, vocational and transitional support to postschool settings with maximum opportunities for decision making and full participation in the community.

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h. Student teaching. Student teaching in special education programs across the age levels of this endorsement.

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