



SUNY Potsdam Initial Certification MSE Special Education Childhood 1-6 Checklist



I. Certification Requirements

- Teacher Certification Authorization Form:** If your undergraduate program was not completed at SUNY Potsdam, submit completed form to the Center for School Partnerships and Teacher Certification, 111 Satterlee Hall, Potsdam, NY 13676 or fax to 315-267-3327. The form is accessible at: <http://www.potsdam.edu/academics/SOEPS/teachercertification/index.cfm>.
- New York State Teacher Certification Exams:** Successfully complete the Content Specialty Test – Students with Disabilities **and** the Content Specialty Test – Multi-Subject. Registration is available online at: www.nystce.nesinc.com. Tests are subject to change.
- Program:** Successfully complete the approved program and apply to graduate by clicking on this link: <http://www.potsdam.edu/offices/registrar/forms.cfm>.

II. Follow the instructions below when applying for your teaching certification.

- Log on to the TEACH System at:** <http://www.highered.nysed.gov/tcert/>
- Click: “TEACH Online Services”**
- Click: “Apply for Certificate”** (Read the information and click NEXT.)
- Verify/Update Profile:** If you edit any information you must click the “Add” button each time.
- Online Application Step 1:** Enter the following information listed below.
 - Institution:** “SUC Potsdam”
 - Award Title:** “Master of Science in Education”
 - Program:** “25154 Special Education”
 - Major:** “Special Education”
 - Date Degree Received:** Example - “05/20/2012”
 - Attended From and to Dates:** Example – “08/25/2008 – 05/20/2012”
 - Number of Credits:** Example – “33”
- Online Application Step 2:** Select the information listed below.
 - Area of Interest:** “Classroom Teacher”
 - Subject Area:** “Students with Disabilities”
 - Grade Level:** “Childhood Grades 1-6”
 - Title:** “Students with Disabilities (Grades 1-6)”
 - Type of Certificate:** “Initial”
- Program Code:** “25154” (Code links to “Approved Teacher Preparation Program” Pathway)
***When applying for your Students w/ Disabilities 1-6 Professional Certification, repeat step 2 using the same program code and select “Professional” for Type of Certificate.**

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- Three Years of Teaching:** Substitute teaching for 540 days is equivalent and more information can be found at: <http://www.highered.nysed.gov/tcert/ctexp.html>.
- Mentoring Program/Form:** Complete a mentoring program during first year of teaching and ensure the superintendent has submitted the form to State Ed. Information can be found at: <http://www.highered.nysed.gov/tcert/faqmentoring.html> and <http://www.highered.nysed.gov/tcert/certificate/mentoredexp.html>.

Maintaining a Valid Professional Certificate

- Professional Development Hours:** Complete 175 hours of professional development training every 5 years. Go to the following website: <http://www.highered.nysed.gov/tcert/resteachers/175.html> for information about documenting hours and who is responsible for documenting.
- Renewing Professional Certificate:** As long as the candidate completes 175 hours of professional development training every 5 years and it's logged accordingly, the certificate will remain valid and the candidate will not have to continue applying for a new certificate.

Common Links:

Forgot Username: <https://ws04.nyenet.state.ny.us/FUIDV3/fuid.xhtml>

Forgot Password: <https://ws04.nyenet.state.ny.us/FPSV3/fps.xhtml>

Visit the Center for School Partnerships and Teacher Certification website for additional information about certification requirements, forms and links to websites.

<http://www.potsdam.edu/academics/SOEPS/teachercertification/index.cfm>