EDUCATION SPECIALIST (Ed.S.)
SIXTH-YEAR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM
FOR TEACHERS

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Purpose

All sixth-year certification programs are approved by the Alabama State Department of Education.

The purpose of the Education Specialist (Ed.S.) certification programs in teaching is to extend the expertise and further develop knowledge, competencies, and skills of professionals holding master’s level certification in the same teaching field in which the Class AA certification is sought. All coursework applied toward the Ed.S. degree program must be earned at the 6000 level or above, and no courses applied toward certification at the master’s level may be applied toward certification at the education specialist level. See the specific degree program for additional admission and degree completion requirements.

College of Education students must meet all specialized accreditation requirements to be classified as graduates of specialized accredited programs (NCATE). Up to 12 hours of coursework completed at a site/university without the appropriate specialized accreditation may be considered for application toward program completion. See Transfer Credit section for additional information.

Certification in Alabama

Candidates completing an approved Education Specialist certification program are eligible to apply for the Alabama Class AA professional certificate, provided they meet the following:

1. a grade point average of 3.25 on all education specialist coursework attempted
2. a grade of “C” or better in all coursework which applies to certification
3. a grade of “B” or better in the research requirements for the program

Any candidate who applies for a professional certificate is subject to all regulations set forth by the Alabama State Department of Education. These regulations may include a comprehensive background check, verification of appropriate experience, and prior certification specific to the certification sought. Additional requirements (e.g., standardized examinations to demonstrate content mastery) may be added as the Alabama State Board of Education and other accrediting agencies modify regulations. Candidates should consult their education adviser for details.

Only candidates properly admitted to an approved certification program and who successfully fulfill all program and certification requirements will be recommended for certification. The Certification Officer, appointed by the Dean of the College of Education, is the only Troy University official authorized to recommend candidates for certification in any state.

Certification in Other States

Other states may grant professional certification to candidates completing the Troy University Education Specialist program.

Some states may have additional requirements. Candidates seeking certification in other states should contact the appropriate State Department of Education.

Only candidates properly admitted to an approved certification program and who successfully fulfill all program and certification requirements will be recommended for certification. The Certification Officer, appointed by the Dean of the College of Education, is the only Troy University official authorized to recommend candidates for certification in any state.

Early Childhood Education (Ed.S.)

Admission Requirements for Education Specialist Program for Teachers in Early Childhood Education

Admission to the Graduate School does not automatically constitute admission to the Education Specialist Program. All candidates must complete all requirements for the Alabama Class AA certification. All Ed.S. candidates must successfully complete a written comprehensive examination prior to program completion.

In addition to the Admission Requirements for Graduate School, candidates seeking the education specialist degree in a teacher education program must

1. hold a masters degree from a regionally accredited college or university;
2. hold valid master’s level certification in the same teaching field in which the Class AA certificate is sought;
3. complete a special education course as a prerequisite if not previously completed; and
4. be unconditionally admitted and complete all additional admission requirements identified in the specific program.
Early Childhood Education  
36-39 Semester Hours  
Location: Dothan  

Required Professional Core:  
PSY 6693 3 Psychological and Educational Statistics  
ECE 7790 3 Qualitative Research Methodology  
ECE 7793 3 Problem Analysis in ECE  
EDU 7709 3 Seminar in Decision-Making for Teachers and Educational Administrators  
EDU 7730 3 The Teacher Leader  
EDU 7795 3-6 Thesis  

*EDU 6611 Educational Technology in the Curriculum is required if not previously taken.  
*In addition to the required core, a survey course in special education is required unless previously completed.  

Teaching Field Courses:  
Select four courses (12 semester hours) from the following:  
ECE 6618 3 Designing Prosocial Learning Environments  
ECE 6622 3 Parents as Partners in Education  
ECE 6628 3 Inquiries into Literacy Acquisition  
ECE 6630 3 Inquiries into Representation  
ECE 6632 3 Authentic Assessment in the ECE Classroom  
ECE 6633 3 Integrated Thematic Curriculum  
ECE 6634 3 Inquiries into Logico-Mathematical Knowledge  

Select two Adviser-Approved Teaching Field Courses:  
Select six additional hours of adviser-approved ECE courses or other adviser-approved courses related to the profession (e.g., EDU, ELE, SPE, RED). A candidate may not enroll in a 6000-level course if it duplicates the same course listed on the master’s transcript.  

Elementary Education (Ed.S.)  

Admission Requirements for Education Specialist Program for Teachers in Elementary Education  
In addition to the Admission requirements for the Troy University Graduate School and Education Specialist Program requirements, please see the following admission requirements prior to acceptance into the Education Specialist in Elementary Education program. Certification endorsement students shall not complete more than two pre-admission courses until all requirements for Program admission have been met:  
- Evidence of a minimum of three years elementary-level teaching experience prior to acceptance into the program;  
- Present a minimum entrance exam score of 372 on the verbal portion of the GRE and a 4.5 on the analytical writing score on the GRE.  
- Individuals who have met all other requirements other than the 4.5 on the analytical portion of the GRE, but who have scored between a 4.0 and a 4.4 on the analytical writing portion may petition for an oral review for admission into the program.  

Elementary Education  
36 Semester Hours  
Location: Dothan, Phenix City  

Required Professional Core:  
PSY 6693 3 Psychological and Educational Statistics  
ELE 7790 3 Qualitative Research Methodology  
ELE 7793 3 Problem Analysis in Elementary Education  
EDU 7709 3 Seminar in Decision-Making for Teachers and Educational Administrators  
EDU 7730 3 The Teacher Leader  
EDU 7795 3-6 Thesis  

*EDU 6611 Educational Technology in the Curriculum is required if not previously taken.  
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