



## **Non-Traditional Route to Special Education Teacher Certification**

Have you thought about teaching students with special needs?

HB1233 is designed to address this concern. HB1233 provides a method for individuals to obtain a special education teacher certification. The State Board of Education will issue a one-year provisional certificate to teach in the area of mild-moderate or severe-profound disabilities grades PK-12. The teacher may renew the certificate two more times if the individual has completed at least six credit hours in a non-traditional route to certification program or toward a master's degree in special education.

This process is designed for candidates who meet the following criteria:

- ✓ Have earned any four-year degree from an Institution of Higher Education holding Regional Accreditation;
- ✓ Have a Grade Point Average of 2.75 or higher from a previous degree program;
- ✓ Have a recommendation from a representative at a school district or Institution of Higher Education;
- ✓ Pass a National Background Check;
- ✓ Commit to complete a Master's Degree or Certification in Special Education; and
- ✓ Commit to remain with a district for at least three years after earning Standard Certification in Special Education.

Candidates who meet the above criteria and are interested in obtaining a non-traditional special education certification may submit an application to the State Department of Education. Candidates must then complete a 150-hour program that includes 120 hours of special education training known as "Boot Camp" and 30 hours of field experience.

Please use the following resources to contact Tricia Hansen or Dr. Sabrina Salmon for additional information:

Email: [hb1233certification@gmail.com](mailto:hb1233certification@gmail.com)

HB1233: <http://www.oklegislature.gov/BillInfo.aspx?Bill=HB1233>

Oklahoma State Department of Education: <http://ok.gov/sde/special-education>

Phone: 405-521-3351