



# Non-Traditional Route to Special Education Teacher Certification

The Non-Traditional Route to Special Education Teacher Certification provides a method for individuals with a minimum of a bachelor's degree to obtain a special education certification. Candidates must complete a 150-hour program that includes 120 hours of special education training known as "Boot Camp" and 30 hours of field experience. Upon completion 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 PreK-12.

Candidates who meet the following criteria may attend a Boot Camp program through the Oklahoma State Department of Education, Special Education Services at no cost:

- › 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 (University requirement);
- › Have a recommendation from a representative at a school district or Institution of Higher Education;
- › Pass a National Background Check; and
- › Commit to 18 hours towards a Masters Degree in Special Education.

Candidates who are interested in obtaining a Non-Traditional Special Education certification must submit an application to the State Department of Education.

For additional information, please contact OSDE-SES at:

- › Phone: 405-521-3351
- › Oklahoma State Department of Education:  
[www.ok.gov/sde/non-traditional-route-special-education-teacher-certification](http://www.ok.gov/sde/non-traditional-route-special-education-teacher-certification)