ALTERNATIVE LICENSURE
FOR
SPECIAL EDUCATION

The Special Education Alternative Licensure Program for teachers provides a course of study leading to teacher licensure. The program, approved by the New Mexico Department of Public Education and the Professional Standards Commission, offers elementary and secondary track course work.

Students enrolled in this program must complete all course work, pass the required New Mexico Teachers Assessment Tests (NMTA), and complete other application requirements for licensure.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS
Applicants must hold a degree in a education or in any other field of study.
- Bachelor’s including 30 credits in a particular field; or
- Master’s including 12 graduate credits in a particular field; or
- Doctorate in a particular field.

TESTING REQUIREMENTS
After admission into the program and during the first semester of enrollment, you must pass the NMTA Basic Skills. Other assessments are required for teacher licensure.
- New Mexico Assessment of Teacher Competency (Elementary or Secondary)
- New Mexico Content Knowledge Assessment (Elementary, Middle-Level, or Secondary-level).

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS
You must have already applied and been accepted to Northern and have had official transcripts from all colleges sent to the Office of Admissions.

Submit to Northern’s Teacher Education Department an application packet that includes:
- Letter of intent
- A letter stating your philosophy of education
- Two letters of recommendation
- Copies of all transcripts to the Education Department
- Alternative Licensure Program Application form
- You will be required to sign an Assurance form

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS
20 credit hours for the Special Education program, as approved by the New Mexico Department of Public Education and the Professional Standards Commission.

ELEMENTARY (K-12)
Pre-Requisites for all courses is passing the NMTA

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPED 401</td>
<td>Foundations of Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPED 455</td>
<td>The Special Education Program: IEP’s and Assessments</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPED 465</td>
<td>Reading for Special Learners</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPED 475</td>
<td>Curriculum Methods &amp; Materials for Special Education</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPED 485</td>
<td>Teaching Reading in Special Education</td>
<td>3</td>
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SPED 497/L  Supervised Field Experience with Lab (4)

TOTAL CREDIT HOURS  20