

APPLICATION FOR 2026 SPECIAL EDUCATION PRELIMINARY LICENSE PROGRAM

Return Special Education Applications to:
School of Education -SOU -1250 Siskiyou Blvd., Ashland, Oregon 97520 **OR** email application materials to caster@sou.edu

Please make copies of all application materials for your records before submitting originals.
The School of Education will not be able to make copies for you.

How did you find out about the Special Education Program at Southern Oregon University?

☐ Facebook ☐ Friend/Family ☐ Internet ☐ Radio/TV ☐ College Catalog ☐ Advisor ☐ Other (Specify)

Are you a current employee of a school district? ☐ Yes ☐ No Are you a first generation college goer? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Last Name	First Name	MI	Preferred Name	Former Name
Current Mailing Address - Number and Street				E-Mail Address
City	State	Country (if not U.S.)	Zip Code	Phone

SOU ID # _____ Date of Birth _____ ☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Non-binary

Permanent Address - Number and Street				
City	State	Country (if not U.S.)	Zip Code	Phone

The Oregon Chief Education Office requires all teacher preparation programs to report the number of students from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. **Is your first language something other than English:** Yes ☐ No ☐

Please check all that apply: ☐ Hispanic/Latino ☐ American Indian or Alaskan ☐ Asian ☐ Black or African American
☐ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander ☐ White/Caucasian ☐ Other

Bachelor's Degree:

Granting Institution: _____

Address of Granting Institutions (City/State): _____

Date of Completion: _____ Major: _____

Grade Point Average: Last 90 Undergraduate Hours or 60 Undergraduate Semester Units: _____

Be sure official transcripts have been sent to the SOU Admissions office.

Resume

Please provide a short (1-2 page) resume which includes all post-secondary educational experiences and a chronological work and volunteer history since graduation from college, specifically noting experience (dates and types of experience) with persons of exceptionalities and with children in school.

Prerequisite Coursework:

Foundations of Special Education Course (e.g., Ed 470) **AND** Mathematics for Elementary Teachers (Math 211)

Quarter/Semester Completed:

Special Education Foundations (list course number/title) _____ Grade _____ Institution _____

Mathematics for Elementary Teachers (Math 211) _____ Grade _____ Institution _____

IV. Letters of Recommendation:

Attach **at least** two letters of recommendation from immediate supervisors employed by educational or social agencies **attesting to your competence to work with school-aged children or youth in schools in a volunteer or paid work experience**. These may be sent under separate cover. List the supervisors' names below.

Names of supervisors:

Types of experiences:

1

2

V. Character Questions:

As part of the application process for admission to the Southern Oregon University (SOU) Special Education Program, you must answer the following set of character questions. Answer each character question with a "YES" or "NO" in the blank to the left of the question. **If the answer is "YES" to question #9, 10, or 11, attach a certified true copy of the court record to this report.** Explain fully on a separate sheet of paper any "YES" answers to questions.

- ____ 1. Have you ever been admitted to, but not completed, a teacher education program at another higher education institution?
- ____ 2. Have you ever left any educational or school-related employment, voluntarily or involuntarily, while the subject of an inquiry, review or investigation of alleged misconduct? Have you ever left educational or school-related employment when you had reason to believe such investigation was underway or imminent?
- ____ 3. Are you currently the subject of an inquiry, review or investigation for alleged misconduct or alleged violation of professional standards of conduct by either an employer or a licensure agency?
- ____ 4. Have you ever been placed on leave by your employer for any alleged misconduct?
- ____ 5. Have you ever had any adverse action taken on a professional certificate, license or charter school registration? Have you ever been placed on probationary status for alleged misconduct while holding a professional license, certificate, registration, or credential?
- ____ 6. Have you ever been denied any professional license for which you applied or granted a professional license on a conditional or probationary basis for any alleged misconduct?
- ____ 7. Have you ever surrendered a professional license of any kind before its expiration?
- ____ 8. Have you ever been disciplined by any public agency responsible for licensure of any kind, including but not limited to educational licensure?
- ____ 9. Have you ever been convicted or been granted a diversion or conditional discharge by any court for any: (a) felony; (b) misdemeanor; or (c) major traffic violation, including but not limited to: driving under the influence of intoxicants or drugs; reckless driving; fleeing from or attempting to elude a police officer; driving while your license was suspended, revoked or used in violation of any license restriction; or failure to perform the duties of a driver or witness at an accident?
- ____ 10. Have you ever been arrested or cited for any offense listed in question (9) above which is still pending in the courts? This includes any diversion, conditional discharge or postponed adjudication that has not been dismissed by the courts at the time this application is signed.
- ____ 11. Have you ever had any civil judgment or other court order, including but not limited to a restraining order, entered against you resulting from allegations of abuse, assault, battery, harassment, intimidation, neglect, stalking, or other threatening behavior toward other persons?

Certify:

I grant the SOU School of Education permission to check civil and criminal records to verify any statement made on the character question portion of this form. I understand that if I am admitted to the program, I will be required to complete a fingerprint-based verification process which includes a review of my background by both the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Oregon State Police, in order to corroborate the accuracy of the responses I have provided above.

I hereby certify that the information on or relating to this form is true and correct. Further, I understand that the SOU School of Education may deny or revoke admission to the SOU Special Education Program upon evidence that I knowingly made any false statements on or relating to this form.

Signature of applicant

Date of signature

RELEASE OF INFORMATION FORM

As part of the application process for admission to the teacher education program at Southern Oregon University (SOU), I hereby authorize SOU to request, and those receiving this request, to release all information and records regarding disciplinary or behavioral matters or any information or records that might reflect on my potential as a teacher. This may include, but is not limited to, contacting:

- 1) The Dean of Students at any institutions of higher education that I have attended.
- 2) Professors or instructors whom I have had.
- 3) State agencies with whom I have been involved.
- 4) Previous employers
- 5) Individuals cited as references in my application.

I understand that SOU will use this information only as part of the application process for the Special Education program and that this permission to release information will expire when the application process for the cohort to which I am applying has been completed. I further agree that the SOU School of Education has permission to reproduce this release form and send it with all requests for information.

In consideration of this consent, I hereby release the above parties from any and all liability arising therefrom.

Please print your **full name** here: _____

Your signature: _____ Date: _____

Witnessed: _____ Date: _____

*****Please make sure you have someone witness this form! The "Witness" can be anyone of your choice. The School of Education does not have to witness the signature.***

CANDIDATE'S DESCRIPTION OF PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WORKING WITH CHILDREN

Special Education

Briefly describe previous working experience with youth, in particular students with exceptionalities. List instructional or classroom experience(s) including practicum experience, paid experiences(s) and volunteer experience(s). Include dates and duration. If coursework is included, indicate course number, course title, institution, term/year, and credit hours (semester or quarter) earned.

Describe the character of each experience you have listed and explain how each has prepared you to enter a graduate level teacher education program. The quality of your written expression as well as the quality of your experiences will be considered. A strong response will include self-reflection on cultural competence, which include vulnerability and humility that may illuminate personal assets or biases.

Comments (Continue on reverse side if necessary. May be typed or handwritten.)

CANDIDATE'S RESPONSE TO ESSAY QUESTION

Special Education

In the space below, compose, **in your own handwriting**, a one page essay response to the following questions:

What are the most significant outcomes for students with exceptionalities in today's schools? How will you assist students in achieving those outcomes? A strong response will include self-reflection on cultural competence, which include vulnerability and humility that may illuminate personal assets or biases.

Essay (Continue on reverse side if necessary. Must be handwritten.)

SOUTHERN OREGON UNIVERSITY
School of Education

Letter of Recommendation

TO THE APPLICANT: The Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 and its amendments guarantee enrolled students the right to see their letter of recommendation unless they explicitly waive that right. Indicate below what your wishes are in this regard:

- ☐ I **DO NOT** waive my right to inspect the contents of this recommendation.
- ☐ I **DO** waive my right to inspect the contents of this recommendation (in which case, please provide the referrer with a stamped envelope addressed to Southern Oregon University as indicated in the lower right hand corner of this form).

Print full name: _____

Address: _____

Signature: _____ Date _____

TO THE REFERRER: The above named person is applying for admission to the Graduate Teacher Education Program at Southern Oregon University, has given your name as a reference. Please assess the candidate's performance and/or potential as a prospective Special Education teacher (kindergarten through grade 12) and return this form to the candidate for inclusion in his/her application. If the applicant has waived the right to inspect the recommendation, the recommendation should be returned directly to the address listed in the lower right hand corner.

THE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS TO THE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM REQUIRE THAT THE CANDIDATE PROVIDE US WITH TWO LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION WRITTEN BY PERSONS EMPLOYED BY SCHOOLS OR SOCIAL AGENCIES (PUBLIC OR PRIVATE) WHO HAVE SUPERVISED HIM/HER WORKING WITH SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN.

PLEASE DESCRIBE THE SITUATION IN WHICH YOU WERE ABLE TO SUPERVISE OR OBSERVE THE CANDIDATE'S WORK WITH CHILDREN:

Please check the column that applies to your assessment of the applicant in the categories listed below:

	Unusually High	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Unusually Low	No Basis for Judgment
Demonstration of Content Knowledge						
Breadth of Knowledge						
Enthusiasm for Teaching						
Sense of Responsibility						
Expressive Ability: Oral						
Expressive Ability: Written						
Flexibility						
Initiative						
Ability to Work with Other Adults						
Emotional Maturity						
Potential as a Special Education Teacher						

PLEASE INCLUDE ADDITIONAL COMMENTS ABOUT THE APPLICANT ON THE BACK OR AS ATTACHMENT

DO YOU RECOMMEND THIS PERSON FOR ADMISSION TO A GRADUATE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM? ____YES ____NO

Name (Please Print): _____

Position: _____

At: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Southern Oregon Univ
School of Education
1250 Siskiyou Blvd
Ashland, OR 97520
(541) 552-6936

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School of Education

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Initiative						
Ability to Work with Other Adults						
Emotional Maturity						
Potential as a Special Education Teacher						

PLEASE INCLUDE ADDITIONAL COMMENTS ABOUT THE APPLICANT ON THE BACK OR AS ATTACHMENT

DO YOU RECOMMEND THIS PERSON FOR ADMISSION TO A GRADUATE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM? ____YES ____NO

Name (Please Print): _____

Position: _____

At: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

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