

Dominican University Education Specialist Program

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for the Dominican
University Program



Program Course Design

Preliminary Education Specialist: Mild to Moderate Disabilities

- ◆ Core Courses
- ◆ Pedagogy and Reflective Practice Courses
- ◆ Supervised Fieldwork



Certification Options

The Dominican University program is designed to offer candidates two certification options:

Option 1: Student Teaching

Option 2: Internship



Student Teaching and Internship Programs

Both options provide four basic course sequences tailored to student needs and prior education.

1. Preliminary Education Specialist
2. Preliminary Education Specialist for holders of a General Education Credential



Student Teaching and Internship Programs

3. Dual Preliminary Multiple Subject and Preliminary Education Specialist
4. Dual Preliminary Single Subject and Preliminary Education Specialist



Blended Program Option

- ◆ As of fall 2012, Dual Degree/Dual Credential Program - results in Bachelors and Masters degrees as well as Preliminary Multiple Subject and Preliminary Education Specialist
- ◆ Program and credentials are completed within 5 years



Program Philosophy

- ◆ Dual certification is the best training model for Dominican candidates
- ◆ Special education teachers need to know as much about general education as the general education teacher does
- ◆ Dual certification model is used so that Dominican candidates and graduates can work with all children



Candidates Served

- ◆ Dominican trains an average of 60-75 candidates per year
- ◆ 97% of Preliminary Education Specialist enroll in the dual program
- ◆ Dual graduates are hired immediately
- ◆ Dual program graduate rate is 87% (national average is 57%)



Program Benefits

- ◆ Better trained teachers
- ◆ Employment flexibility for credential holder
- ◆ Employers want individuals who can make programmatic decisions, dual credential graduates provide employers with the desired flexibility



Program Benefits (continued)

- ◆ Based on Center for Teaching Quality data, Dominican revised the general education teacher preparation program and now requires all general education candidates to enroll in the Foundations of Special Education course.

