Everything you ever wanted to know about

BECOMING A SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER

Are you interested in becoming a Special Ed teacher?
Want to find out more about the Special Ed career path?

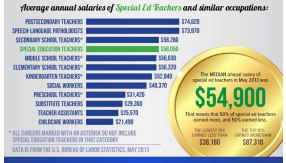
Read on to find out answers!

WHY YOU'LL LOVE BEING A SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER

"EVERY STUDENT CAN LEARN, JUST NOT ON THE SAME DAY, OR IN THE SAME WAY." – GEORGE EVANS

SPECIAL ED SALARY

Average annual salaries of Special Ed Teachers and similar occupations:



* ALL CAREERS MARKED WITH AN ASTERISK DO NOT INCLUDE SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS IN THAT CATEGORY

DATA IS FROM THE U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, MAY 2013

The MEDIAN annual salary of Special ed teachers in May 2013 was

$54,900

That means that 50% of special ed teachers earned more, and 50% earned less.

THE LOWEST 10% EARNED LESS THAN $38,160

THE TOP 10% EARNED MORE THAN $87,310

JOB OUTLOOK

Special ed is considered a **HIGH-NEED FIELD** by the TEACH Grant Program

We Need YOU!!

According to the U.S. Dept. of Labor

497,780

Special education teachers were employed in the US in May 2013.

98% of school districts reported difficulty in supporting a shortage of special ed teachers... and it's expected to get worse

By 2020, the Bureau of Labor Statistics says that gap will have increased by 17%.

THE DEMAND FOR SPECIAL ED TEACHERS IS EXPECTED TO RISE IN THE NEXT SEVERAL YEARS DUE TO THESE FACTORS:

- Better screening & identification of kids with disabilities
- Special needs kids are identified earlier and enrolled in special ed programs at younger age
- Laws require free public education for students with disabilities
- School districts to need special ed teachers to assist special needs kids in inclusive classrooms
- High turnover rate of special education teachers

In 1990, the United States government enacted the

INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT

aka.

IDEA

IDEA is a U.S. federal law that ensures services to children with disabilities throughout the nation.

IN 2011-2012, THERE WERE OVER

6.4 MILLION

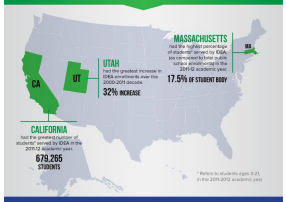
SPECIAL NEEDS KIDS (AGES 3-21) SERVED BY IDEA

OF THOSE 6.4 MILLION STUDENTS, HERE IS THE BREAKDOWN OF DISABILITIES BY TYPE:

IN THE 2011-2012 ACADEMIC YEAR,

13% OF PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS WERE SPECIAL-NEEDS.

STATS BY STATE



HOW TO BECOME A SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER IN NEW YORK

Start here

1. **EARN A BACHELOR'S DEGREE**
   Including specific essential liberal arts and academic course work.
2. **EARN A MASTER'S DEGREE IN EDUCATION & SPECIAL ED**
   And be sure to select a program that leads to Initial Generic Ed & Special Ed.
3. **MEET NYSED REQUIREMENTS FOR NYS INITIAL TEACHER CERTIFICATION**
   Prerequisite requirements include:
   - Pass state exams, attend required seminars and workshops, and be fingerprints on file with the NYSED.

After completing half of the Initial Certification program, you'll be eligible to apply for employment during which you can begin teaching while completing your Initial Certification.

4. **APPLY FOR NYS INITIAL TEACHER CERTIFICATION**
5. **GET 3 YEARS OF TEACHING EXPERIENCE**
   within 5 years of earning NYS Initial Cert. Teaching experience must include 1 year of mentored teaching
6. **APPLY FOR NYS PROFESSIONAL TEACHER CERTIFICATION**

Congratulations!

YOU ARE NOW PROFESSIONALLY CERTIFIED AS A SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER!

Continue to earn 175 hours of professional development coursework every 5 years, to renew your certification.

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
BEGIN YOUR PATH TO BECOME A SPECIAL ED TEACHER TODAY!

TOURO'S GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

offers master's degrees in Education & Special Education which may (optionally) be completed fully online.
Find out more on our website:

GSE.TOURO.EDU

SOURCES

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http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d13/tables/dt13_048.asp
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http://www.bls.gov/school/education-training-and-library-special-education-teachers.htm
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http://inspiretoo.com/2013/01/top-quotes-for-teachers/

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