

## **Non-Degree Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant Certification Eligibility (24 credits)**

This twenty-four (24) credit advanced LDTC program certification eligibility program (Clusters II and III) is for teachers who are already certified to teach Special Education or an allied field in New Jersey and have had at least two years of successful teaching experience. A Master's Degree in Special Education or an allied field from an accredited university is required. (See complete requirements below.)

**NOTE:** Entry to the Program is competitive. Completion of this no-degree program requires field experience, two fifty (50) hour practicums, satisfactory completion of key assessments, and a midpoint and exit examination.

### **Contact Information**

For information about the program, contact the Special Education Department Chairperson at 201-200-3023. For additional information about the application process, contact Ms. Sachie Tsumara-Tmart at [stsumara@njcu.edu](mailto:stsumara@njcu.edu).

### **Application Requirements**

Applicants for the LDTC Endorsement Eligibility must submit both of the following:

1. Graduate Admission Application
2. LDTC Endorsement Eligibility Program Application Supplement

### **Application Deadline**

Both the Application to Graduate Study and LDTC Endorsements Eligibility application supplement, as well as all supporting documents specified below, must be submitted to the Office of Graduate Studies, Hepburn Hall, Room 206 by **February 15<sup>th</sup>** of each year.

Because the LDTC certification eligibility program is limited to a maximum of fifteen (15) candidates a year, prospective students are urged to complete the application process and submit their credentials well in advance of that deadline.

Acceptance into the program is contingent on the final recommendation of the Special Education Department LDTC Admission Committee. Applicants who choose to submit their professional portfolio must provide it to the Department of Special Education, Education and Professional Studies Building, Room 350 one week prior to the scheduled appointment.

Upon review by the Special Education Department LDTC Admission Committee of all application material received by the February 15<sup>th</sup> deadline, prospective candidates will be designated from among the applicants and may be scheduled for an interview with the Special Education Department LDTC Admission Committee.

Final notifications of candidate selection will take place on or about May 1st. Successful candidates will normally be admitted to the program for the fall semester each year. Applicants who have not met all requirements in Cluster I may be required to complete Cluster I courses in the term Summer I and /or II at New Jersey City University.

## Admission / Documentation Requirements

Applicants for the LDTC certification eligibility program must meet the following department requirements and submit the specified documentation items along with their applications:

1. Have completed a NCATE -or TEAC- accredited master's program in Special Education or allied field, such as School Psychology or Reading, with a minimum grade point average of 3.25 out of a possible 4.00.
  - **Documentation:** Official graduate and undergraduate transcripts from all schools attended (except NJCU).

NOTE: Applicants with degrees from out-of-state universities must have their credentials evaluated by the New Jersey Department of Education prior to admission to this program, and must submit an official copy of the evaluation along with their application.

2. Hold a standard New Jersey teaching certificate.
  - **Documentation:** Copy of standard teaching certificate.
3. Have completed three years of successful teaching
  - **Documentation:** A letter from the Human Resources department of the applicants' school district (on official school stationary), including the certificate of record, the date on which service began under that certificate, and current assignment.
4. Submit two letters of recommendation from professionals who can describe the applicant's potential for advanced study, knowledge of teaching and learning, ability to promote student learning, teaching skills, student achievement, and relationships with students, parents, colleagues and administrators.
  - **Documentation:** One letter must be from the principal, and the other from a vice principal or supervisor of instruction. Letters must be on official school stationary in sealed envelopes.
5. Submit a personal essay in which the applicant describes interest in becoming a Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant, relevant study, experience and philosophy of Special Education.
  - **Documentation:** Approximately three to four pages in length, double spaced.
6. Schedule a personal interview.
  - **Documentation:** Interview, if the applicant elects, a review of applicant's professional portfolio (including key assessments and commentaries from readers).

NOTE: The following are required for all success applicants:

- Access to a Windows or Macintosh computer.

**NOTE: Once accepted into this program, candidates are required to take all courses in Clusters II and III at NJCU.**

**Maintenance of Matriculation, Cumulative Grade Point Average Requirements, and Completion Requirements.**

Students must maintain a Cumulative Grade Point Average of 3.25 out of 4.00, and must complete the sequence of courses as described below. A grade of B+ or better is required in Spec 697 in order to register for Spec 698. A grade of B+ or better is required in Spec 698 in order to register for 699.

Key assessments are embedded in Special Education courses in this program. Students must satisfactorily complete key assessments that are aligned with CEC Standards and NJCU COE Reflection Urban Practitioner Conceptual Framework. The Diagnostic/ Treatment Midpoint Assessment in the second cluster, and the Learning Disabilities Consultant Field Performance Assessment in the final course, required candidates to demonstrate diagnostic and instructions skills. Students are also required to demonstrate their skills in field experiences.

Candidates will have field experiences in most courses culminating in two (2) practicums in the final year. The practicum provides opportunities for candidates to apply their knowledge and skills under the supervision of a university professor and an appropriately experienced LDTC identified by the candidate. In most cases the practicum is completed while the candidate continues teaching.

**Program Course Requirements**

**Cluster I: Special Education Core Requirements (15 credits)**

Code	Title	Credits
Spec 600	Introduction to Learning Disabilities	3
Spec 605	Introduction to Education and Psychology of Exceptional Children	3
Spec 606	Lifespan Assessment for Children and Youth with Disabilities	3
Spec 640	Behavior Disorders in Children and Youth	3
Spec 675	Corrective Techniques for Teaching the Exceptional Student	3

**Cluster II: LDTC Core Requirements (12credits)**

Courses may be taken only after completion of Cluster I and with the Department's permission.

Code	Title	Credits
Spec 670	Remediation of Basic Skills	3
Spec 672	Physiological and Psychological Learning Factors in the Education of Children with Disabilities	3
Spec 697	Diagnosis of Children with Disabilities	3
Spec 702	Cognition, Motivation and Instructional Practice	3

**Cluster III: Clinical Core Requirements (12 credits)**

Courses may be taken only after completion of Cluster II and II, and with the Department's permission.

Code	Title	Credits
Spec 673	Functioning on the Child Study Team	3
Spec 674	Interpersonal and Consultation Techniques	3
Spec 698	Practicum in Individual Appraisal and Remediation of Exceptional Children I *	3
Spec 699	Practicum in Individual Appraisal and Remediation of Exceptional Children II*	3

**NOTE: A grade of B+ or better is required in Spec 697 in order to register for Spec 698.  
A grade of B+ or better is required in Spec 698 in order to register for 699.**