



Board of  
Cooperative  
Educational  
Services

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# CHANGES TO SPECIAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATION

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THAT MIGHT HELP YOU AND YOUR STAFF

# FLEXIBILITY FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS - GRADE LEVEL EXTENSIONS

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- Students with disabilities certificates will be extended up or down TWO GRADES if applicant has:
  - 3 years of appropriate experience
  - 45 hours of CTLE or 3 s.h. of college course work at the level of the extension specific to SWD
    - SWD 5-9 certificate holders also need 15 hours CTLE ELA or 3 s.h. ELA for the 10-12 extension
  - <https://www.regents.nysed.gov/common/regents/files/618brca13.pdf>

# REQUIREMENTS FOR SWD GRADE LEVEL EXTENSIONS – EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT DETAILS

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- Paid full-time teaching experience within two grades of extension - 3 Yrs
  - **Full time = At least 75%** of head classroom teaching experience
  - teaching students with disabilities
    - in a New York State public school or
    - State supported or state-operated private schools
    - approved private special education program pursuant NYS Education law

# REQUIREMENTS FOR SWD GRADE LEVEL EXTENSIONS – EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT DETAILS

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- For PK-K extension (of SWD 1-6), experience must be in grades 1 and/or 2
- For Grades 7-8 extension (of SWD 1-6), experience must be in grades 5 and/or 6
- For grades 3-4 extension (of SWD 0-2), experience must be grades 1 and/or 2
- For grades 5-6 extension (of SWD 7-12), experience must be in grades 7 and/or 8
- For Grades 10-12 extension, (of SWD 5-9) experience must be in grades 8 and/or 9

# SWD Generalist Grade Level Extensions

SWD Certificate Grade Level	Extension Grade Levels	Teaching Experience Requirement	CTLE or a College Course	
Birth-Grade 2	Grades 3-4	Minimum of 3 years at the 1st and/or 2nd grade levels.	Minimum of 45 hours of acceptable CTLE focused on SWD at the elementary level.	Minimum of 3 semester hours of pedagogical coursework focused on SWD at the elementary level.
Grades 1-6	PK-K	Minimum of 3 years at the 1st and/or 2nd grade levels.	Minimum of 45 hours of acceptable CTLE focused on SWD at the early childhood level.	Minimum of 3 semester hours of pedagogical coursework focused on SWD at the early childhood level.
Grades 1-6	Grades 7-8	Minimum of 3 years at the 5th and/or 6th grade levels.	Minimum of 45 hours of acceptable CTLE focused on SWD at the middle level.	Minimum of 3 semester hours of pedagogical coursework focused on SWD at the middle level.
Grades 7-12	Grades 5-6	Minimum of 3 years at the 7th and/or 8th grade levels.	Minimum of 45 hours of acceptable CTLE focused on SWD at the middle level.	Minimum of 3 semester hours of pedagogical coursework focused on SWD at the middle level.
SWD Generalist Certificate Grade Level	Extension Grade Levels	Teaching Experience Requirement	SWD at the Adolescent Level	English Language Arts
Grades 5-9	Grades 10-12	Minimum of 3 years at the 8th and/or 9th grade levels.	Minimum of 45 hours of acceptable CTLE or a minimum of 3 semester hours.	Minimum of 15 hours of acceptable CTLE or a minimum of 3 semester hours.

# IF TEACHER HAS LESS THAN 3 YEARS EXPERIENCE??

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- Supplementary Certificate for Stand-alone Developmental Level Titles
  - Requires superintendent statement from district
  - There may be Content Specialty Tests required
  - Gives teacher 5 years to complete 6 credits of developmental level course work\*
- \*and ELA course work if 10-12 extension

# **FLEXIBILITY FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS – GRADES 7-12 CONTENT SPECIALISTS**

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Students with disabilities (SWD) 7-12\* certificate extensions for teaching special classes -ELA, social studies, math, biology, chemistry earth science and physics

- **Statement of Continued Eligibility (SOCE) (veteran teachers - HOUSSED)**
- **Limited Extension ( newly assigned or HOUSSED less than 3 years)**

- \*An amendment has been proposed to allow Students with Disabilities (Grades 7-12) content specialist certificates, Students with Disabilities (Grades 5-9) Generalist certificate, Students with Disabilities (Grades 5-9) content specialist certificates, and Special Education (K-Grade 12)



# STATEMENT OF CONTINUED ELIGIBILITY (SOCE)

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To gain an SOCE the teacher must:

- hold an SWD 7-12 generalist certificate\*
- Have satisfactorily taught full-time under the SWD 7-12 certificate full-time, three years by July 1, 2019
- Have been assigned a special class
- Be Highly Qualified in one or more subject areas via HOUSSE rubric\*\*  
(High Objective Uniform State Standard Of Evaluation)

\*\*Documentation required

# LIMITED EXTENSION OF SWD 7-12 CERTIFICATE (TO TEACH 'SPECIAL' CONTENT AREA CLASSES)

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Students with disabilities (SWD) 7-12\* certificate limited extensions for teaching special classes -ELA, social studies, math, biology, chemistry earth science and physics

- Valid 5 years (allowing holder to complete course work for content extension)
- Renewable Once (3 s.h. per year must be completed during first extension)

# LIMITED EXTENSION OF SWD 7-12 CERTIFICATE (TO TEACH 'SPECIAL' CONTENT AREA CLASSES) REQUIREMENTS

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- 2 years experience before 7/1/2019 in content area under HOUSSE while holding SWD 7-12 or
- Passing NYS Teacher Certification Exam(s) CST in content area(s) taught or
- Passing Industry Exam in content area or
- 9 s.h. in content area including coursework already completed or
- 45 hours CTLE in content area and
  - 2 years experience in the content area or
  - Mentoring for one year by district teacher certified in subject being taught

# CHANGES TO SPECIAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATION

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PLEASE ASK QUESTIONS  
IF YOU HAVE ANY