

San Jose State University

**Department of Special Education
Policies**

The following policy applies to all programs within the department of Special Education, College of Education at San Jose State University.

Disposition Evaluation

Application to the Department of Special Education

Each applicant to the credential program or MA program completes a Self-Assessment of dispositions with the application packet, and each letter of recommendation is attached to a dispositions evaluation completed by the recommender of each candidate.

Candidate Evaluation during the Education Specialist and MA Programs

The dispositions of each candidate in the Education Specialist credential and the MA programs are evaluated on two occasions during each program (Preliminary, Level I, Level II, MA programs) on the Disposition Evaluation form by the instructors of the courses. The schedule for the evaluation is as follows for the credential programs: (1) the instructor evaluates each candidate in EDSE 279 or EDSE 105, (2) the University Supervisor evaluates each candidate in the directed teaching course (EDSE 217A, EDSE 154, EDSE 281, EDSE 217B, EDSE 234) in the last semester of the program. The schedule for the evaluation is the following for the MA program: (1) the instructor evaluates each candidate in EDSE 285 and (2) the instructor evaluates each candidate in EDSE 220.

Average or above average performance of these 15 dispositions is required to be a special education teacher and to complete the SJSU Education Specialist and/or MA program. If a candidate receives a “no” in the evaluation of two or more dispositions, he/she will receive a warning. A third “no” in any disposition is grounds for disqualification for the Department of Special Education Program. Following any rating of “no”, the candidate will be referred to the Department of Special Education’s Student Review Committee and a plan will be developed to assist the candidate to make improvements in that area and also a determination about his/her future in the program will be determined. Candidates in the Department of Special Education programs need to be evaluated as “yes” in each of the items on the Dispositions Evaluation.

Any candidate in the Department of Special Education program who is determined to be disqualified from the program can appeal this decision by writing a letter to the Department Chair that provides rationale for the appeal. This will be referred to the Student Review Committee for review and for a determination about the actions as result of the appeal.