The School of Education offers advanced certificates in Special Education Childhood and Special Education Adolescence to provide an appropriate set of academic and clinical experience for teachers preparing to work with students with disabilities.

Both certificates consist of a sequence of four areas (Foundations, Classroom Management, Assessment, and Pedagogy) required by the New York State Education Department, as well as two Practicum Mentorships in which teachers will be given an extensive opportunity to apply the principles of special education they learned in the courses into the classroom.

**DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**
The Certificate is a one year – 16 credit program which requires one foundation course, three core courses, and two practicums.

**FOUNDATION COURSE:** (3 credits/1 course required)
- Foundations of Special Education
  - OR
- Teaching Students with Special Needs

**CORE COURSES:** (9 credits/3 courses required)

**Special Education Childhood Advanced Certificate (Grades 1-6)**
- Classroom Management in Special Education and Inclusive Classrooms
- Principles of Assessment in Special Education
- Reading: Assessment and Instruction in Special Education and Inclusive Classrooms

**Special Education Adolescence Advanced Certificate (Grades 7-12)**
- Classroom Management in Special Education Inclusive Classrooms
- Principles of Assessment in Special Education
  - AND
- Reading Instruction and Assessment of Adolescent Students with Special Needs
  - OR
- Integrating Technology into Teaching Math and Sciences to Adolescent Students with Special Needs

**PRACTICUM MENTORSHIPS COURSES:** (4 credits/2 courses required)
- Practicum Mentorship in Curriculum and Instructional Practices for Students with Disabilities
- Practicum Mentorship in Assessment and Classroom Management for Students with Disabilities
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- A teacher or current graduate student who has a valid, initial or professional certificate in Childhood Education, Grades 1-6 or Adolescence Education grades 7-12.
- Minimum 3.0 GPA in both undergraduate and graduate coursework.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Graduate Application:
The application must be completed online at www.csi.cuny.edu/graduatestudies.

Transcripts:
Applicants must request official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended. Applicants who are currently enrolled in a post-secondary institution, should have one transcript sent along with the application and another sent when they complete the courses they are currently taking. Applicants who have been enrolled at CSI do not need to request a CSI transcript; the Office of Recruitment and Admissions will obtain a copy.

Application Fee:
A $75.00 non-refundable application fee is required of all applicants. Please make your check or money order payable to the College of Staten Island. Veterans are exempt from paying the application fee. Veterans must provide proof of their Veteran/Military status in order to be waived from paying the application fee.

Personal Statement:
A one- to two-page personal statement outlining skills and dispositions that are relevant to becoming special education teachers and career goals.

Letters of Recommendation:
Two academic or professional letters of recommendation testifying to the applicant's ability to complete successfully the program of graduate study are required.

New York State Initial Teaching Certificate:
Submission of a copy of your New York State Initial Teaching Certificate.

Interview:
Applicants may be selected for an on-site interview.

English Proficiency Examination: The TOEFL, IELTS, or PTE exam is required of students for whom English is a second language.

- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL): Minimum required score is 79 (Internet). For additional information or to register for the exam, please visit the TOEFL website at www.ets.org. Our institutional code is 2778.
- International English Language Testing System (IELTS): We will only accept the academic exam scores. The minimum required score is 6.5 (overall band). For additional information or to register for the exam, please visit the IELTS website at www.ielts.org.
- Pearson Test of English (PTE): Minimum required score is 53. For additional information or to register for the exam, please visit the PTE website at www.pearsonpte.com.

All documents must be submitted to the Office of Recruitment and Admissions.

Mailing Address:
Office of Recruitment and Admissions, Graduate Unit
College of Staten Island, CUNY
2800 Victory Boulevard, Building 2A, Room 103
Staten Island, NY 10314

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