

## Education & Training Cluster



Planning, managing and providing education and training services, and related learning support services.

**Data Sources**  
Bureau of Labor Statistics  
CareerInfoNet  
CareerClusters  
The College Board  
Tracer  
JobsEQ

# Special Education Teachers

*The fairy-tale author Hans Christian Anderson had dyslexia, a learning disability that makes reading difficult. Others who have struggled with dyslexia include Albert Einstein, Walt Disney, Whoopi Goldberg, Tom Cruise, and Magic Johnson. If you listed all the people with special learning needs who have made important contributions to society, you'd fill a book.*

Do you love to help others? Are you tolerant of people who learn differently and sometimes behave differently? If so, a career as a **special education teacher** may be for you.

**Special education teachers teach children who have special learning needs or problems such as trouble speaking. Most teach students in elementary, middle and high schools, though some work with infants and toddlers.**

### Are You Ready To...?

- Develop and follow an individual learning plan for each student
- Help identify students who would benefit from special education
- Keep in close contact with parents and a team of professionals, such as social workers and speech pathologists, to provide help to each student
- Attend meetings

### It Helps To Be...

Patient, tolerant and flexible. Each of your students will face different challenges. You'll want to help all of them grow and develop—while making it clear that you accept them just as they are.

### A Day In The Life...

- Administer standardized ability and achievement tests to kindergarten or elementary students with special needs
- Attend professional meetings, educational conferences or teacher training workshops to maintain or improve professional competence

### Salary and Opportunity in the Austin-area

**Median Hourly Wage: \$24.76**

*That comes out to more than \$51,500 a year.*

**In 2016, we had 13,996 Special Education Teachers.  
By 2026, we'll need 17,783.**

*Could you be one of the 3,787?*

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# Special Education Teachers

## After High School...

In addition to a high school diploma, many employers look for special education teachers with a **bachelor's degree**.



## Top 5 Industries for Special Education Teachers

1. Elementary and Secondary Schools
2. Employment Services
3. Individual and Family Services
4. Local Government
5. Colleges, Universities and Professional Schools

For more Career Profiles, visit our website:

[http://www.wfscapitalarea.com/YouthServices/  
CareerPlanning.aspx](http://www.wfscapitalarea.com/YouthServices/CareerPlanning.aspx).

## Related College Majors

- Psychology
- Education
- Elementary School Teaching
- High School Teaching
- Middle School Teaching
- Special Education

## Related Industry Certifications

- Emergency First Aid, CPR & AED Certification
- Special Education Teacher Certification
- Disability- and Severity-Based Special Education Teacher Certification

## Related Careers

- Education Administrators
- Instructional Coordinators
- Preschool Teachers
- Teacher Assistants
- Trainers

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