



FAQ Summer Endorsement for SPED

When/Where are courses offered?

All coursework is held online in the evening to accommodate working individuals. A sample program schedule is available on the website.

Who can I expect to be in the courses alongside me?

SPED courses will include PLU Bachelors students, Masters students and working professionals who are adding the endorsement to their existing certificate.

Is a program schedule available?

Yes! A tentative schedule is available on the [website](#).

When must I submit my program application?

We highly encourage applicants to submit their materials as soon as possible; space is based on a first-come, first-served basis and the program fills quickly. Priority consideration is given to candidates who apply before March 1; however, applications will be accepted until May 1st. After May 1st, candidates will be reviewed on a space-available basis.

What is the successful application process?

Step 1: Complete the [online application](#) form

Step 2: Mail the accompanying paper [application materials](#) to PLU

Step 3: Complete an interview

Step 4: Offer of admission

Step 5: Register for classes

Step 6: Attend program orientation. *Orientation date tentatively set for Thursday, May 3 at 5pm .*

When will I know if I have been accepted into the program?

Upon receiving your online application you will receive a confirmation email from PLU's Professional Development Office. Once your accompanying paper application materials arrive, you will then receive a second confirmation email. Upon successful program eligibility, you will then be contacted for an interview. Finally, after the interview, an admissions decision will be communicated via e-mail.

When do I register for coursework?

Candidates may register for coursework after admission has been granted. Summer registration occurs as early as mid-April through the start of the term. Classes begin May 7th.

When and where does fieldwork occur?

For current PLU students in the [BAE](#) or [MAE](#) program, fieldwork is integrated into your program and does not occur during the summer.

For [add-on endorsement \(WA state certified teachers\)](#) candidates, fieldwork will occur in the Bethel School District, within the Extended Schools Year (ESY) program. The schedule is [tentative](#), set for July 11 – August 5. Candidates are expected to be on-site teacher hours from approximately 8:45am-12:30pm, Monday- Friday. Wednesday afternoons will include a Reflective Seminar after fieldwork until approximately 2:00pm.



What is a Pedagogy Assessment?

The Pedagogy Assessment is the final evaluation rubric to successfully complete fieldwork. Candidates will become familiar with the Pedagogy Assessment during field experience under the guidance of their assigned PLU field supervisor.

When does the Pedagogy Assessment occur?

The pedagogy assessment occurs during the summer ESY field experience. The Pedagogy assessment requires a minimum of two observations by a university Field Supervisor. These two observations occur near the middle and end of the field experience.

What is the West-E?

The West-E is Washington’s educator skill assessment, required in the process to add an endorsement. The assessment is based on Washington state endorsement competencies and must be passed before earning the endorsement. Many resources are available online for candidates including a free practice test and a video on how to prepare.

When must I complete the West-E to earn the endorsement?

Candidates are encouraged to begin reviewing test materials and registration dates as early as possible on the WEST website. In order to complete program requirements, candidates **MUST** successfully pass the West-E subject test prior to be recommended for licensure at the end of their program. Candidates are strongly encouraged to begin looking at West-E tests dates now and schedule an early August test date.

How much does the program cost?

Program Application	\$40
Coursework/Fieldwork	\$5,750
OPSI Fee	\$48
West-E test	\$135
Textbooks:	<i>Varies by instructor, approx. ~\$100</i>
TOTAL COSTS:	\$5,971

Is Financial Aid Available? How am I billed?

Federal Financial Aid (FAFSA) is not available for this program. Private educational loans are available, which can at times be lower interest than graduate federal financial aid. To explore alternative educational loan options participants are encouraged to start with their own private banking, investigate private educational loan options, and explore this [PLU Resource](#).

Applicants are also encouraged to view OSPI’s Educator Retooling Scholarship. The deadlines are: September 22, January 12, and April 27. This is a state scholarship for up to \$3000 for high-need endorsement areas. I would highly encourage you to invest the time in considering applying for this support. [You may learn more here.](#)