

# SWOSU Approved to Offer Non-Traditional Route to Special Education Teacher Certification

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Southwestern Oklahoma State University's Department of Education has been designated to provide a summer boot camp for individuals interested in a non-traditional route to becoming a special education teacher.

Due to the teacher shortage in special education, Oklahoma House Bill 1233 made the option available and the Oklahoma State Department of Education designated SWOSU as a provider of the boot camp.

Dr. Ruth Boyd, chair of the SWOSU Department of Education, said potential applicants must meet the following criteria: 1) have earned any four-year degree from an institution of higher education 2) have a grade point average of 2.75 or higher from a previous degree program 3) have a recommendation from a representative at an institution of higher education 4) pass a national background check and 5) commit to complete a Master's Degree or certification in Special Education.

Interested candidates must make application through the SWOSU Department of Education, complete designated summer boot camp courses, and commit to completing their Master of Education in Special Education.

SWOSU will offer summer boot camp courses in a blended format, and the majority of coursework will be completed online. Candidates will be on-campus for workshops on June 27 and July 25.

For additional information, contact Boyd by email at: [ruth.boyd@swosu.edu](mailto:ruth.boyd@swosu.edu).