

Special Education Teaching Assignments

While NYSED defines what certification is required for various types of teaching assignments, local districts are responsible for determining how those certified teachers are assigned and utilized within their schools, based on their certification. This chart and [NYSED's comprehensive Course Catalog](#), can be utilized by school districts when making these determinations.

Special Education Certification	Early Intervention (students with disabilities from ages 0-2 years)	Preschool Itinerant Teacher (students with disabilities from ages 3-4 years)	Consultant Teacher, Resource Room Teacher, Integrated Co-Teacher (school-age students with disabilities)	Special Class Teacher – Some or No Students Under Alternate Assessment (school-age students with disabilities)	Special Class Teacher – All Students Under Alternate Assessment (school-age students with disabilities)
Permanent Special Education (issued prior to February 2004) only	Yes	Yes	Prekindergarten-Grade 12	Prekindergarten-Grade 6	All grades
Permanent Special Education (issued prior to February 2004) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> With a certificate, extension, limited extension, or statement of continued eligibility (SOCE) in grades 7-12 and in the subject area to be taught 	Yes	Yes	Prekindergarten-Grade 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prekindergarten-Grade 6 Grades 7-12 in the subject area of certificate held 	All grades
SWD (Birth-Grade 2) only	Yes	Yes	Birth-Grade 2	Birth-Grade 2	All grades

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SWD (Birth-Grade 2) • With SWD grade-level extension (Grades 3-4)	Yes	Yes	Birth-Grade 4	Birth-Grade 4	All grades
SWD (All Grades) only	No	Yes	Prekindergarten-Grade 12	Prekindergarten-Grade 6	All Grades
SWD (All Grades) • With a certificate, extension, limited extension, or statement of continued eligibility (SOCE) in grades 7-12 and in the subject area to be taught	No	Yes	Prekindergarten-Grade 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prekindergarten-Grade 6 Grades 7-12 in the subject area of certificate held 	All grades
SWD (Grades 1-6) only	No	No	Grades 1-6	Grades 1-6	All grades

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SWD (Grades 1-6) • With SWD grade-level extension (PK-K)	No	Yes	PK-Grade 6	PK-Grade 6	All grades
SWD (Grades 1-6) • With SWD grade-level extension (Grades 7-8)	No	No	Grades 1-8	Grades 1-6	All grades
SWD (Grades 5-9) Generalist only	No	No	Grades 5-9	Grades 5-6	All grades
SWD (Grades 5-9) Generalist • With SWD grade-level extension (Grades 10-12)	No	No	Grades 5-12	Grades 5-6	All grades

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SWD (Grades 5-9) Generalist <ul style="list-style-type: none"> With a certificate or extension in grades 5-9 and in the subject area to be taught 	No	No	Grades 5-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grades 5-6 Grades 7-9 in the subject area of the certificate held 	All grades
SWD (Grades 5-9) Generalist <ul style="list-style-type: none"> With a limited extension or statement of continued eligibility (SOCE) in grades 7-12 and in the subject area to be taught (only valid in a special class) 	No	No	Grades 5-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grades 5-6 Grades 7-12 in the subject area of the certificate held 	All grades
SWD (Grades 5-9) Content Specialist only	No	No	Grades 5-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grades 5-6 Grades 7-9 in the subject area of the content specialty 	All grades

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SWD (Grades 5-9) Content Specialist <ul style="list-style-type: none"> With SWD grade-level extension (Grades 10-12) 	No	No	Grades 5-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grades 5-6 Grades 7-12 in the subject area of the content specialty 	All grades
SWD (Grades 5-9) Content Specialist <ul style="list-style-type: none"> With a limited extension or statement of continued eligibility (SOCE) in grades 7-12 and in the subject area to be taught (only valid in a special class) 	No	No	Grades 5-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grades 5-6 Grades 7-9 in the subject area of content specialty Grades 7-12 in the subject area of the certificate held 	All grades
SWD Generalist (Grades 7-12) only	No	No	Grades 7-12	Not eligible; does not hold content area certification	All grades

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SWD Generalist (Grades 7-12) • With SWD grade-level extension (Grades 5-6)	No	No	Grades 5-12	Grades 5-6	All grades
SWD Generalist (Grades 7-12) • With a certificate, extension, limited extension, or statement of continued eligibility (SOCE) in grades 7-12 and in the subject area to be taught	No	No	Grades 7-12	Grades 7-12 in the subject area of the certificate held	All grades
SWD (Grades 7-12) Content Specialist only	No	No	Grades 7-12	Grades 7-12 in the subject area of the content specialty	All grades

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SWD (Grades 7-12) Content Specialist <ul style="list-style-type: none"> With SWD grade-level extension (Grades 5-6) 	No	No	Grades 5-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grades 5-6 Grades 7-12 in the subject area of the content specialty 	All grades
SWD (Grades 7-12) Content Specialist <ul style="list-style-type: none"> With a limited extension or statement of continued eligibility (SOCE) in grades 7-12 and in the subject area to be taught 	No	No	Grades 7-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grades 7-12 in the subject area of the content specialty Grades 7-12 in the subject area of certificate held 	All grades