Program Description
The M.Ed. in Mentally/Physically Handicapped Education is designed for students who are certified in Elementary or Secondary Education. Students who are not certified will need to choose our Track D option for our Dual Elementary and Special Education Program.

Elementary Education certified teachers can choose from the following:
M.Ed with certification in Special Education Grades PreK-8 - (33 graduate credits)
Certification Only - Special Education Grades PreK-8 - (27 credits)

Secondary Education certified teachers can choose from the following:
M.Ed. with certification in Special Education grades 7-12 - (33 graduate credits)
Certification Only - Special Education Grades 7-12 - (27 graduate credits)

Track D - Elementary/Special Education dual certification program is for students who are not certified in either Elementary or Special Education (63 credits). Please see program sheet on dual certification for more information on this program or visit our website at www.calu.edu.

Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD Certification): For those who already hold certification in Mentally and/or Physically Handicapped, or any single-category area of special education. Please see program sheet on Autism for more information or visit our website at www.calu.edu.

Accreditation
National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE)
California University of Pennsylvania is accredited by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. California University has been accredited for over 40 years and was founded in 1852.

Admissions Criteria
• Minimum undergraduate 2.8 QPA or 3.0 QPA in last 48 college credits taken
• Graduate School Application + $25.00 nonrefundable application fee
• Official Transcripts
• Copy of Teaching Certificate (Elementary or Secondary)
• Current Act 34, 151, and 114 Clearances or proof of submission

Delivery Mode
Traditional with some online course offerings within the program
## Curriculum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ESP 610*</td>
<td>Special Ed. Foundations &amp; Collaboration</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESP 701*</td>
<td>Introduction to Behavior Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESP 620</td>
<td>Special Ed. History, Theory, &amp; Exceptionality</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESP 739</td>
<td>Field Experience in Special Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESP 502</td>
<td>Life Skills Planning and Instruction</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESP 503</td>
<td>Assessment and Prescriptive Teaching</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESP 74X</td>
<td>Autism Elective [ESP 740, 741, 742 or 743]</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESP 800</td>
<td>Seminar in Advanced Behavior Analysis &amp; Research Design</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*ESP 610 and ESP 701 are prerequisite courses for all other courses in Special Education.

Undergraduate course or competencies also needed for certification:
- ESL/ELL (3 credits)

In addition to the 24 credits listed above, students will need to complete one of the following 9 credits based on the certification track being pursued:

### Grades PreK-8 certification track:
- ESP 607 Early Intervention: Special Education 3
- ESP 612 Evidence-Based Practices for PreK-8 Inclusion 3
- ESP 622 Advanced Evidence-Based Practiced for PreK-8 Inclusion 3

OR

### Grades 7-12 certification track:
- ESP 506 Transition Planning and Instruction 3
- ESP 613 Evidence Based Practices for Secondary Inclusion 3
- ESP 623 Advanced Evidence-Based Practices for Secondary Inclusion 3

Both certification only track curriculums (27 credits) have the same coursework as listed above except they both **exclude**:
- ESP 74X Autism Elective 3
- ESP 800 Seminar in Advanced Behavior Analysis and Research Design 3

**Curriculum pending final approval from the Pennsylvania Department of Education**

### About Us

Founded in 1852 as an academy, California University of Pennsylvania is one of 14 universities that comprise the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education. The main campus, located in California, PA, has 38 buildings on 92 acres on a bend in the Monongahela River. In addition to the main campus, there are a variety of sites and options for graduate education including on-campus, online and off-site centers.

### Graduate Faculty

- **James Burton**, Ed.D., West Virginia University, specializes in Life Skills, Transition, and Assistive Technology;
- **Kalie Kossar**, Ed.D., West Virginia University, specializes in Collaboration, Inclusion, Assessment, and Strategy Instruction;
- **Katherine Mitchem**, Ph.D., Utah State University, specializes in Applied Behavior Analysis and Autism;
- **Mary Seman**, Ed.D., West Virginia University, specializes in Applied Behavior Analysis, Direct Instruction, Learning Strategies and Content Enhancement Routines;
- **Sherrill Szalajda**, M.Ed., University of Pittsburgh, specializes in Special Education University, specializes in Classroom/Behavior Management and Autism

### Global Online

Cal U Global Online is a worldwide learning community providing convenient and state-of-the-art classroom delivery of quality academic programs. Cal U Global Online programs are delivered completely over the Internet so that students can log on and complete their school work when it’s convenient for them. The asynchronous format allows students the freedom to fit classes into their busy lifestyle; work at home, in the office, on vacation, anywhere, at anytime! It is the perfect way to reach educational goals while maintaining a normal work and home life.

[www.calu.edu/go](http://www.calu.edu/go)

### Program Contact Information

**PROGRAM COORDINATOR:**

- Dr. Kalie Kossar
- 724-938-4142
- kossar@calu.edu
- www.calu.edu

**Global Online**

http://www.calu.edu/go

### Application Questions

School of Graduate Studies & Research
California University of PA
Eberly Hall 202B
250 University Ave.
California, PA 15419
724-938-4187
gradschool@calu.edu

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**Policies and Procedures:** Note that the policies and procedures described above may be reviewed and revised at any time. This fact sheet should be used as an informational guide. For details on current policies and procedures, contact the Dean of Graduate Studies & Research at 724-938-4187.

Revised March 2012 / drm