

# Special Education Teachers

SOC: 25-2050 • Career Profile Report

## Key Facts

\$64,270

Median Salary

7,700

Employment

-1.0%

Growth Rate

## Requirements & Salary Range

Education: Bachelor's degree

## Automation Risk Assessment

**Low Risk** - 10.0% probability of being automated in the next 10-20 years.

This job is relatively safe from automation due to its creative, social, or complex problem-solving requirements.

## Work-Life Balance

**8.2/10** - Excellent work-life balance

## Personality Fit (RIASEC)

Higher scores indicate better personality fit for this career type.

|              |        |               |        |
|--------------|--------|---------------|--------|
| Realistic    | 3.8/10 | Investigative | 6.6/10 |
| Artistic     | 7.6/10 | Social        | 9.4/10 |
| Enterprising | 5.2/10 | Conventional  | 6.0/10 |

## Top Skills Required

Communication skills, Critical-thinking skills, Interpersonal skills, Patience, Resourcefulness

### ✓ Strengths

- High Demand
- Flexible Work
- Continuous Learning

### ■ Challenges

- Burnout Risk
- Rapid Technological Change

## What They Do

Special Education Teachers typically perform the following tasks:

- Develop or write Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) for students.
- Establish and enforce rules for behavior and policies and procedures to maintain order among students.
- Develop and implement strategies to meet the needs of students with a variety of handicapping conditions.
- Prepare materials and classrooms for class activities.
- Instruct students in daily living skills required for independent maintenance and self-sufficiency, such as hygiene, safety, and food preparation.
- Confer with parents or guardians, other teachers, counselors, and administrators to resolve students' behavioral and academic problems.
- Coordinate placement of students with special needs into mainstream classes.
- Confer with parents, administrators, testing specialists, social workers, and professionals to develop individual educational plans (IEPs) for students' educational, physical, and social development.
- Modify the general education curriculum for students with disabilities, based upon a variety of instructional techniques and instructional technology.
- Teach socially acceptable behavior, employing techniques such as behavior modification and positive reinforcement.
- Guide and counsel students with adjustments, academic problems, or special academic interests.
- Establish clear objectives for all lessons, units, and projects, and communicate those objectives to students.
- Teach students personal development skills, such as goal setting, independence, and self-advocacy.
- Employ special educational strategies and techniques during instruction to improve the development of sensory- and perceptual-motor skills, language, cognition, and memory.
- Maintain accurate and complete student records, and prepare reports on children and activities, as required by laws, district policies, and administrative regulations.
- Collaborate with other teachers that provide instruction to special education students to ensure that the students receive appropriate support.
- Instruct through lectures, discussions, and demonstrations in one or more subjects, such as English, mathematics, or social studies.
- Monitor teachers and teacher assistants to ensure that they adhere to inclusive special education program requirements.
- Meet with parents and guardians to discuss their children's progress and to determine priorities for their children and their resource needs.
- Observe and evaluate students' performance, behavior, social development, and physical health.