Dual Special Education/Early Childhood Certification Testing Requirements

Basic Skills Test
With the passage of Act 168, effective August 1, 2015, the Basic Skills Test requirements MUST be met before any candidate can be admitted to a teacher certification program. Admission is generally achieved in the spring semester of the sophomore year. Therefore, the basic skills tests must be passed by that time.

Certification Tests
Dual certification candidates must pass BOTH certification tests before student teaching begins.

The professional content test for Early Childhood (PK-4) certification is the 3-part PreK-4 test that is part of the Pennsylvania Educator Certification Test (PECT) series offered by Pearson Evaluation Systems. There are 3 modules included. They may be taken on the same test date or they may be taken individually. These certification tests MUST be passed before a candidate may participate in student teaching.

The professional content test for Special Education (PK-8) certification is the 2-part Special Education K-8 test that is part of the Pennsylvania Educator Certification Test (PECT) series offered by Pearson Evaluation Systems. There are 2 modules included. They may be taken on the same test date or they may be taken individually. These certification tests MUST be passed before a candidate may participate in student teaching.

Additional information about these tests and registration for them is available at http://www.pa.nesinc.com/ Both tests are available only by appointment at designated computer centers. A list of all current centers is available at the PECT website listed above.

Remember that all test scores must be reported to Shippensburg University.