Special Education Certification Testing Requirements
Graduate Level Only

Basic Skills Test
Graduate students are considered to have met the basic skills requirement based on the completion of a bachelor’s degree. Therefore, students getting special education certification at the post-baccalaureate or master’s level are NOT required to take the PAPA or CORE exam.

Certification Tests
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.

The professional content test for Special Education (7-12) certification is the 2-part Special Education 7-12 test that is part of the Pennsylvania Educator Certification Test (PECT) series offered by Pearson Evaluation Systems.

There are 2 modules included in each test. 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.