

Limited Apprentice License (LAL) program for High Incidence

An alternative pathway that allows a qualified candidate to start teaching prior to completing the full program. A Limited Apprentice License (LAL) for High Incidence Special Education is issued after completion of an initial prescribed set of program coursework – 1st semester of program. Assignment as the teacher can be made after the LAL license is issued, and teaching under the LA license can continue while completing the remainder of the LAL program requirements. The endorsement on the LA license will be High Incidence Special Education. Appropriate assignment under the LAL license is providing Support Services.

Qualifications of candidates:

- **Bachelor's degree** (from a regionally accredited university)
- **GPA** requirement of **2.50** on a 4.0 scale for the most recent 60 semester credit hours earned by the candidate
- **Minimum of one full school year as a full-time special education paraprofessional** under the supervision of a SPED teacher
 - Extensive long-term special education substitute experience will be considered on an individual basis for equivalency to the described paraprofessional experience.
- **Verification that a local education agency (LEA) will employ and support them** in an appropriate SPED assignment during the completion of the program under the LAL license.

Responsibilities of LEA/Teacher Education institution:

Support and supervision of the candidate must be provided collaboratively by both the LEA and the institution.

- Hiring LEA must:
 - Assign a mentor and provide an approved mentor program
 - Place the candidate in an appropriate assignment
- University must:
 - Provide a plan of study:
 - that allows for completion of the program within a two-year timeframe.
 - a third year to complete may be approved on an individual basis if a candidate can verify extenuating circumstances.
 - that specifically designates the coursework and other requirements to be completed each semester.
- The LEA mentor and university advisor must share their contact information for collaboration purposes.

Licensure after program completion:

- **Issue a standard Initial teaching license**
 1. If the teacher held a LAL license and taught for two full years and was mentored under the LAL License:
 - require 1 additional year of mentoring prior to being upgraded to the professional license.
 2. If the teacher held a LAL license for less than two full years and/or did not have two full year of teaching/mentoring during a LAL license:
 - require 2 additional years of mentoring prior to being eligible to upgrade to the professional license.