Although not a program requirement, many students in the Certificate Program choose to take the state required Praxis examinations that lead to licensure. Specifically, students who choose to take the exams will pass the "Special Education: Core Knowledge and Applications" exam and specialty area exam relating to LD (the focus area of the certificate). For the 2020-2021 data cycle, we will collect baseline data on the following exams: 1. Special Education: Core Knowledge and Applications, and 2. Specialty area exam in LD. Teacher candidates cannot be recommended for state licensure until they successfully complete these examinations.

The SPED certificate will demonstrate a commitment to reducing the SPED teacher shortage in local communities by engaging in recruitment and retention practices that target high demand teaching positions.

Students in the Special Education Certificate Program will express satisfaction with the program through program completer surveys and will engage in meaningful SPED employment following graduation.