When are classes offered?
The program courses are full-term and offered in the evening. Many of the requirements for the associate degree can be taken during the day or evening and in both full and short-term formats.

How long will it take to earn a certificate or degree?
Students generally take two years to complete all of the courses required for the associate degree. The certificate of achievement generally takes two terms.

How much can I expect to earn once I complete the program?
Salaries vary from one area of interest to another, but are generally attractive for the well-trained individual in the industry. Many students go on to own and operate their own successful businesses.

Students generally take two years to complete all of the courses required for the associate degree. The certificate of achievement generally takes two terms.
As a result of general population growth and an escalating number of students with disabilities, and also due to recent legislation governing the skills required for special education workers, there is a growing demand for a highly trained workforce with the skills gained from this program. Recent statistics indicate that there is an inadequate supply of qualified special education paraprofessionals to meet the needs of individuals with disabilities in the state of California. Nationwide, special educators are also in immediate demand.

What can I do with a special education paraprofessional certificate?

Students who earn a special education paraprofessional certificate of achievement are prepared for entry-level employment assisting students and individuals with disabilities in education and rehabilitation settings.

What can I do with a special education A.A. degree?

The associate in arts degree (A. A. degree) with a special education major is a two-year program that offers students the same in-depth study required to work with people with disabilities, while also providing a broad general education. Students with an A.A. degree are also well prepared to transfer to a teacher credentialing program or other related four-year course of study.

“After taking a SPEDU class, I feel that even though I have a disability, I can do anything I want to do. The most important thing I learned in my SPEDU class was that society handicaps people more than disabilities do.” - DVC SPEDU student