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	Вид на документа: Оперативен документ	№ на документа: 7.5.1_OD_1.0.1	В сила от: 14.09.2011
	Име на документа <b>Квалификационна характеристика на специалност</b>		Страница: 1 от 5

## FACULTY OF EDUCATION

APPROVE:

DEAN:  
PROF. T. BORISOVA, PhD, DSc

## QUALIFICATION CHARACTERISTICS

Area of higher education	<b>1. Pedagogical sciences</b>
Professional direction	<b>1.2. Pedagogy</b>
Scientific specialty / doctoral program	<b>Special pedagogy</b>
Professional Qualification	
Educational-scientific degree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Doctor
Period of education	3 – 4 years
Form of education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> regular <input type="checkbox"/> extramural <input type="checkbox"/> free


Discussed at a meeting of the Methodical Council (Study Committee)	<b>11.02.2020 Protocol № 1</b>
Discussed and adopted at the meeting of the Faculty Council	<b>09.09.2016 Protocol № 8</b>
Discussion and adopted update of the meeting of the Faculty Council	<b>12.02.2020 Protocol № 3</b>
Approved at a meeting of the Academic Council	<b>26.02.2020 Protocol №4</b>

Stara Zagora, 2020

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## QUALIFICATION CHARACTERISTICS

### of a doctoral program SPECIAL PEDAGOGY

#### 1. Qualification and competencies

The **main goal** of the doctoral program Special Pedagogy is the training of highly qualified specialists capable of independently and competently solving complex and diverse scientific-theoretical and practical-applied tasks, problem situations and case nominations in the field of special education. The most current tasks that require specific solutions to achieve the goal are:

- *Educational tasks:*
  - acquisition of qualification (knowledge, skills, competencies) for obtaining an educational and scientific degree "doctor";
  - mastering modern and perspective methods in the field of special education;
  - personal and professional prosperity of the doctoral students, their successful realization in the dynamically changing world.
- *Research tasks* (described in Vol. 2 and Vol. 3)

The doctoral program *Special Pedagogy* is designed to form knowledge and skills consistent with the increasing requirements of the educational system and academic institutions to specialists in Special Pedagogy. The doctoral program covers a set of knowledge, skills and competencies focused on:

- increasing the creative potential of doctoral students;
- sin-depth knowledge of the state and trends in the studied area and identification of the main problem areas, achieving an interdisciplinary environment, evaluation of alternative policies in the presented scientific field, offering logically justified professional solutions;
- building research and organizational and management competencies.


The training of doctoral students is directly oriented to the development of their competencies in the perimeter of the scientific specialty in general and in the specific problem area in particular. This is a fundamental basis for forthcoming research activity, the results of which are expected to be useful for

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the modernization of certain aspects of special education and the improvement of therapeutic activity.

## 2. General and special training

The training in the doctoral program *Special Pedagogy* has a clear focus on acquiring broad training in terms of:

- acquisition of special knowledge and skills for working with different information sources, digital and language competencies, focused on providing personal information awareness and optimizing professional communication with researchers from other countries, mastering knowledge of fundamental facts, hypotheses and theories and a system of applied orientations;
- formation of specialized and systematized knowledge for carrying out a critical analysis of the specialized literature and on this basis – generating new ideas;
- deriving interdisciplinary levels of knowledge or external-disciplinary connections and information transfer. The personal signification of special education is carried out in own structural models and schemes and in correspondence between the own competence and the information from and for other scientific and applied fields;
- mastering the methodological and methodological issues of scientific research;
- acquisition of knowledge for application of alternative models for solving specific research tasks and implementation of innovative activities;
- formation of the necessary knowledge related to the teaching methodology, etc.

**The ultimate goal** of the doctoral program *Special Pedagogy* is the acquisition of theoretical, practical and research competencies by doctoral students and successful completion of the defense of the doctoral dissertation..

## 3. General and special skills

In the process of training in the program, doctoral students form skills that are in accordance with *the National Qualifications Framework of the Republic of Bulgaria*. The skills are divided into the following positions:

- precise use of the conceptual-terminological block;
- performing theoretical analysis in the context of studying complex objects and systems with diverse relationships and dependencies between their parameters;


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- orientation in the scientific issues – research and derivation of new challenges and current problems in the scientific space of the Special Education and in the modern educational practice of the Special Pedagogy;
- formulation of an assessment of well-founded and significant cases in the area of Special Pedagogy for extremely clear and effective presentation of personal positions and conclusions to specialists and non-specialists;
  - defining a scientific design and specifying a research concept;
  - realization of research projects related to the current aspects (fundamental and applied) of the Special Pedagogy, in accordance with the achievements in the modern era of science and practice;
  - application of the methodology of the research activity depending on the specifics of the scientific-practical problem, giving special priority and importance to individual details of the researched object;
  - consistent application of a scientific approach and use of unique scientific tools in the diagnostic and experimental research corps;
  - approbation and introduction in the special pedagogical practice of alternative methods, models, strategies and techniques for training and therapy on the basis of the formulated results from own research efforts;
  - carrying out team work and collaboration with specialists with authoritative scientific status and proven experience in the field of special pedagogical practice in order to thoroughly and successfully implement theoretical and empirical tasks and development of research competence and experience;
  - development of a specific theory, performance of theoretical synthesis and concretization, presentation and systematic interpretation of the results, formulation of summaries, conclusions and contributions;
  - introduction of methods and methodologies for practical use of the results;
  - presentation, publication and dissemination of scientific and practical results in various forms – scientific forums, publications in printed scientific publications;
  - improving the overall range of special pedagogical skills.

#### 4. Opportunities for realization

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The program for training doctoral students in the specialty of *Special Pedagogy* is tailored to the needs of theory and practice by specialists in the field of special education who meet the modern requirements of society.

The successful completion of the doctoral program *Special Pedagogy* provides a real perspective for the continuation of the scientific and academic development of the specialists according to the Law for the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria. Doctoral students who have defended dissertations or expelled with the right to defense under the doctoral program *Special Pedagogy*, have the opportunity to successfully implement as specialists in the field of special, school and university education through:

- participation in the implementation of the educational strategy and policy in Bulgaria in accordance with the current realities in the country;
- highly qualified assistance in creating integrated models for effective rehabilitation and socialization of individuals with special needs.
- application of innovative and relevant approaches, technologies, methods in the field of education and therapy for the needs of research and diagnostics in the special pedagogical practice.

The preparation of doctoral students as highly qualified specialists in the conjuncture of the academic institution corresponds to their professional and practical realization, as well as to the formation of readiness for professional and social mobility in the conditions of growing dynamics and uncertainty.

#### **5. Methods and forms of teaching in the doctoral program:**

- Lectures;
- Seminars, exercises;
- Work with bibliographies, databases and other information sources;
- Consultations;
- Independent preparation;
- Design;
- Case work, etc.