

The Special Services Program at Eastern New Mexico University-Roswell (ENMU-R) is an 11-month, 50-credit-hour, occupational training program that leads students to a Certificate in Occupational Training (COT).

The nature of the Special Services program is unique in that we offer students with disabilities the opportunity to build their vocational skill set. We provide specialized certificate programs in Child Care, Food Services, Office Skills, and Stocking & Merchandising. Vocational training emphasizes hands-on instruction, including 16-20 hours per week of on-campus, lab, and off-campus practicum experiences. The technical skills taught in each career field prepare students for entry-level competitive employment in that discipline.

In addition to vocational training, the Special Services Program values and appreciates the importance of our students learning basic life skills. Students are simultaneously enrolled in core classes. These classes consist of Independent Living, Life Skills, Adaptive Physical Education, Job Skills, and Conflict Management. These courses teach students how to manage time, budget money, develop positive social skills, handle conflicts in appropriate manners, understand workplace ethics, prepare for job interviews, and how to live healthy, functional, and meaningful lives. All of these skills, in addition to all the other skills we teach, are important components in becoming successful employees and members of society.

Finally, students have the opportunity to return for a "second year". During a student's second year, he or she will study in a different vocational area; enhancing their ability to become employed post-completion. Second-year students continue to participate in the core classes, but at an advanced level, and have the option to move from our on-campus dormitories into our on-campus apartment-style facilities.

Our program gives students a supervised introduction to independence. Each student is monitored to ensure continued success, utilizing a structured and individualized plan, for each to gain self-reliance in a nurturing college setting.