



Ollscoil  
Teicneolaíochta  
an Atlantaigh  
  
Atlantic  
Technological  
University

Certificate in

## **Inclusive Support and Care in Education for Special Needs Assistants (SNAs)**



The Certificate in Inclusive Support and Care in Education for Special Needs Assistants (SNAs) is a Special Purpose Award with a focus on equipping SNAs with the necessary knowledge, skills and competencies to be effective in supporting the care needs of students with Additional Educational Needs (AEN's). It is offered by the School of Education in collaboration with the School of Nursing, Health Sciences and Disability Studies.

The Programme has been developed and designed in collaboration with the Department of Education (DoE) and the National Council for Special Education (NCSE). Students who are working in SNA positions in primary, post-primary, special schools and special classes are fully-funded by the DoE

Level	Credits	Duration	Study Mode	Delivery Method
6	30	1 year	Part-Time	Online

## Entry Requirements

For those working as an SNA you must:

- Be currently employed (part-time or full-time) in a primary, post-primary, special school, or special class that has a Department of Education school roll number.
- Submit a signed Principals Declaration form.

For those not working as an SNA you must meet one of the following:

- A pass in the Leaving Certificate (5 subjects at grade D or higher, including Maths and English or Irish),
- A Level 5 qualification (or equivalent) on the National Framework of Qualifications.
- Be a mature applicant (aged 23 or older by January 1st of the year you apply – subject to review)

## Examinations & Assessment

The assessment strategy involves a range of methods of assessment, appropriate to the various types of learning covered. The assessment strategy employs a range of formative, diagnostic and summative assessment techniques including the following, oral presentations; essays/reports; case studies; group projects; reflective journals; activity manuals; activity handbooks; logbooks; research projects; practical assessments and MCQ.



## Course Delivery & Study Hours

The programme is delivered part-time, online and is a Special Purpose award. Students can expect to spend 3 to 5 hours per week in online lectures, there are three in-person practical training sessions to be delivered in five geographical locations across the country. It is also recommended that students should try to allow for 7 hours of study per week which includes assessment preparation.

## Modules

1. Inclusive Education of Students with Additional Educational Needs.
2. Language and Communication
3. Supporting Students with Primary Care Needs, including Medical and Complex Needs
4. Social and Emotional Development
5. Supporting Students with Autism
6. Enhancing Personal and Professional Competencies as a SNA.

## Course Contacts

SNA Programme Administrator

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