



**SPECTRUM**  
**School System Commitment Letter**  
**The Department of Communication Sciences and Special Education**  
**The University of Georgia**

Dear System Administrator,

We have accepted \_\_\_\_\_ into the SPECTRUM (Special Education on the Web: Undergraduate, Certification, and Mentoring) program. SPECTRUM provides a means for paraprofessionals or provisionally certified teachers with bachelor's degrees to complete certification requirements in the area of Special Education General Curriculum while continuing their employment in a school system. We are writing to ask for your support of this student so that he/she can receive federal financial assistance.

Specifically, two requirements for funding of individuals under the SPECTRUM Certification program include:

- Commitment on the part of the individual to teach in a high need school system for at least 3 years after obtaining teacher certification;
- Appropriate special education paraprofessional placement or provisional teaching position working with special education students who primarily follow the general education curriculum.

Therefore, we are asking our school partners to make two commitments in support of individuals working in their system who would like to receive financial support as part of our program. First, we ask that the school system commit to providing a setting in which the SPECTRUM student can complete 3 semester-long practicum experiences in Special Education General Curriculum classrooms while continuing in their current role as a salaried individual. While we realize that this may mean a temporary change in assignment for SPECTRUM individuals during their program, in the long run we believe that providing them with real-world experiences in the area in which they will be certified is absolutely critical.

Secondly, we ask that our school partners consider hiring their SPECTRUM students as Special Education General Curriculum teachers once they have completed their degree requirements and obtained appropriate certification, provided that the system has a vacancy in Special Education and believes the SPECTRUM graduate as qualified for the position.

By signing the attached School System Commitment, you agree to provide an appropriate practicum setting for the above-named teacher while allowing him/her to maintain employment as an individual. Furthermore, you agree to consider hiring this individual upon completion of degree/certification requirements, provided that you have a vacancy in an appropriate area and that you believe the individual to be appropriately qualified.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions related to this agreement. A signed copy of the agreement must be on file prior to disbursement of SPECTRUM financial assistance.



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The \_\_\_\_\_ school system will support  
\_\_\_\_\_’s completion of the SPECTRUM program by ensuring an appropriate  
practicum placement as described in the School System Commitment Letter.

We further commit to consider hiring \_\_\_\_\_ as a special education teacher once he/she  
completes certification requirements, *provided that we have a Special Education General Curriculum  
position available and believe that he/she is qualified for that position.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
School System Representative (signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
School System Representative (printed name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email address