



## Spotlight on Special Education Project Competition

Entry Per School	2
Type of Event	Individual
State Competition	Yes
National Competition	No

(Program Standards: 3.0/4.0/5.0/8.0/9.0)

### Purpose:

The purpose of the Spotlight on Special Education project is to promote the impact that Special Education occupations (teachers and related service providers) play in the lives of students. There are three essential parts to the project: a DVD, a research paper, and a signed Job Shadowing form.

### General Information:

Choose an occupation to research. Related service providers are occupational therapist (OT), physical therapist (PT), and speech/language pathologists (SLP) working in a school setting or school psychologist. If the Special Education teacher category is selected, you must address only one of the following 9 certified categories:

- Early Childhood Special Education (Birth to age 5)
- Emotional Disability (ED)
- Hearing Impaired (HI)
- Learning Disability (LD)
- Mental Retardation (MR)
- Orthopedic/Health Impairment (O/HI)
- Severely and Profoundly Disabled
- Visually Impaired
- Cross-Categorical (this certificate covers mild to moderate MR, LD, ED, O/HI)

### 1. Research Paper

The first element of the Spotlight on Special Education project is the research paper.

The research paper is to provide students with the opportunity to research and learn about aspects of a specific special education profession. The topic for the Spotlight on Special Education research paper is “Being in a Special Education Profession Has an Impact on Students.”

#### The research paper should:

- Document with statistical data the need for special education personnel in Arizona.
- Choose a college or university in Arizona you would attend to pursue this career.
- Include a course path you would take in completing all of the required courses to become certified in your special education program area of study.
  - For example, Fall, 2010: English 101, Philosophy 101, etc. This completed course path will encompass all quarters/semesters necessary to graduate and be ready for certification.
- Illustrate how a Special Education teacher or related service provider influences students.
- The body of the research paper must be a minimum of 500 words in length.
- Research paper must be double spaced and typed in Font Times New Roman, Font Size 12, with a cover/title page. Spelling, punctuation, capitalization, and grammar must be correct.
- Identify a minimum of 3 references.
- Include a Reference page using the MLA format to cite sources of information.
  - Examples follow for correct style when listing a book, an article, or an Internet source.

#### Book

- Frye, Northrop. *Anatomy of Criticism: Four Essays*. Princeton: Princeton UP, 1957.

#### Newspaper article

- Crossette, Barbara. “India Lodges First Charges in Arms Scandal.” *New York Times* 23 Jan. 1990, natl.ed: A4.

### Article in online newspaper

- Goldfarb, Zachary A. "Child Health Dilemma." Washington Times 31 Aug. 2003. 4 Sept. 2003 <http://www.washtimes.com/world/20030831-121939-8655r.htm>.

## 2. DVD

The second element of the Spotlight on Special Education project must be presented in a DVD format. The DVD portion will provide the student and audience a tangible interactive experience in shadowing a special educator or related service provider. The job shadowing experience must be with a professional connected with your research paper topic choice. The experience should total a minimum of four hours with three of the hours spent with students. A FEA Special Education Competition Job Shadowing Form must be completed.

- **DVD should include:** A 2 to 3 minute interview with a local Speech/Language Pathologist (SLP), Occupational Therapist (OT), Physical Therapist (PT) working in a school setting, School Psychologist, or Special Education teacher about his/her positive experiences being in the Special Education field. The interview should address job responsibilities, challenges, and motivations.
- The DVD should include a 1-2 minute demonstration displaying a practical hands-on experience working with a student and commentary on why you think a Special Education career path might be for you.

Students should follow the following technical guidelines for their DVD:

- Video must be in a digital format (MPEG4 or QuickTime)
- Voiceovers in video must be audible
- Title screen of video must include student names and grades, school, competition name, and title of video.
- List the editing program (iMovie, MovieMaker, Final Cut Pro, etc.) in the video credits used to assemble your video.
- All source media must be cited in video credits
- Written permissions for copyrighted material must be obtained to show video at FEA State Conference and to post video on the FEA Website.
- All permissions obtained to use copyrighted material in video must be cited in video credits and original permission documents must be scanned or copied and included with archived material on DVD.
- Organize and archive all source media and materials on DVD so they may be accessed later.

### Submission Information:

- Submit Official FEA Competition Entry Form
- Entrants grant the Arizona FEA and Arizona Department of Education, Exceptional Student Services (ESS) the right to use and publish the submission in print, online, or in any other media without compensation.
- Entrants grant any State Department website the right to post photos of students for promotional purposes.
- Submit your Spotlight on Special Education project DVD, research paper, FEA Special Education Competition Job Shadowing Form, and Spotlight on Special Education Application together.

### Scoring Guidelines:

See the scoring rubric for specific scoring items in addition to these scoring guidelines.

## **Application**

Note: This application must be included with the DVD, research paper, and FEA Special Education Competition Job Shadowing Form.

**Spotlight on Special Education Scholarship Award: The winner will receive a \$1,000 scholarship that will be renewed to accommodate four consecutive academic years based on:**

- A letter of commitment to achieve a degree in one of the above categories and to secure employment in an Arizona school.
- Submission of quarterly/semester grades.
- Maintaining a minimum of a 3.2 GPA throughout college.
- If you continue your studies to obtain a Master's degree in your program as a Special Education teacher, School Psychologist, Speech/Language Pathologist, Occupational Therapist, or Physical Therapist immediately following graduation, you may receive additional funding towards that degree.
- ADE/ESS will provide assistance to each approved candidate to begin a Master's degree as long as:
  - i. Federal IDEA funds are available to support this effort
  - ii. The awardee maintains his/her commitment as outlined in the application

**The source of the scholarship is from the Arizona Department of Education, Exceptional Student Services, Comprehensive System of Personnel Development, State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG).**

## SPOTLIGHT ON SPECIAL EDUCATION APPLICATION

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Email: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor's E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

College You Are Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle or underline your project area:

- Occupational Therapist Working in a School Setting
- Physical Therapist Working in a School Setting
- Speech Language Pathologist Working in a School Setting
- Special Education Teacher- Name specific certified category:
- School Psychologist

**FEA Special Education Competition Job Shadowing Form**

Special Educator Teacher or Related Service Provider being shadowed:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Number of hours student shadowed you: \_\_\_\_\_ with students \_\_\_\_\_ without students

Comments \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Student's name \_\_\_\_\_

Comments \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Spotlight on Special Education Project Scoring Rubric

SCORING				SCORE
<b>Submitted Materials</b>	<b>GOOD</b> 1 2	<b>VERY GOOD</b> 3 4	<b>EXCELLENT</b> 5	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some components of guidelines missing</li> <li>Application incomplete</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Followed most of guidelines</li> <li>Application met guidelines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Followed all guidelines</li> <li>Application comprehensive &amp; neat</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No use of live media in DVD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited use of live media in DVD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use of live media in DVD</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School, chapter, city not identified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School, chapter, city identified</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School, chapter, city credits identified</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Job shadowing form incomplete</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Job shadowing form adequate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Job shadowing form complete with comments &amp; signatures</li> </ul>	
<b>DVD Content</b>	<b>GOOD</b> 1 2	<b>VERY GOOD</b> 3 4	<b>EXCELLENT</b> 5	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Content is vague</li> <li>Little creativity &amp; originality</li> <li>Student lacked confidence &amp; professionalism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Content is clear</li> <li>Some creativity &amp; originality</li> <li>Student demonstrated some confidence &amp; professionalism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Content is clear &amp; convincing</li> <li>Creative &amp; original</li> <li>Student was enthusiastic, confident &amp; professional</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No evidence of hands on experience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some evidence of hands on experience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evidence of hands on experience with students</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DVD over 5 minutes + 30 sec.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DVD over 5 minutes + 15 sec.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DVD is under 5 minutes</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No commentary of Special Ed pathway</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Little commentary on Special Ed pathway</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commentary reflects why a Special Ed career is their choice for a career</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Did not follow technical guidelines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Followed most technical guidelines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Followed all technical guidelines</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interview with Special Ed professional lacking</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interview with Special Ed professional lacked clarity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interview with Special Ed professional evident, clear &amp; concise</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interview did not address job responsibilities, challenges &amp; motivations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interview addressed some of the responsibilities, challenges &amp; motivations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interview captures job responsibilities, challenges &amp; motivations</li> </ul>	
<b>Research Paper</b>	<b>GOOD</b> 1 2	<b>VERY GOOD</b> 3 4	<b>EXCELLENT</b> 5	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of statistical data &amp; documentation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some statistical data documenting need for Special Ed personnel in AZ</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Statistical data documents need for Special Ed personnel in AZ</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>400 words or less</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>450 words or less</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>500 words or less</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No resources listed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At least one resource listed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 resources listed</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Course pathway for AZ college lacking</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some evidence of college course pathway</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completed course path for chosen AZ college / University</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incomplete explanation of Special Ed impact on students</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some explanation of Special Ed impact on students</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Description of how Special Ed impacts students</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Format: Cover page / title page, student name, school, city, font = Times New Roman 12 point, double spaced, reference page, correct spelling, capitalization, punctuation, grammar*** Deduct 1 point for each area not in compliance up to 5</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Format: Cover page / title page, student name, school, city, font = Times New Roman 12 point, double spaced, reference page, correct spelling, capitalization, punctuation, grammar*** Deduct 1 point for each area not in compliance up to 5</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Format: Cover page / title page, student name, school, city, font = Times New Roman 12 point, double spaced, reference page, correct spelling, capitalization, punctuation, grammar*** Deduct 1 point for each area not in compliance up to 5</li> </ul>		
<b>• TOTAL SCORE:</b>				

**Judge's Comments:**