INTRODUCTION
The purpose of the PKSN Endorsement program is to increase the quantity of high-quality PKSN teachers across the state of Ohio. This program will help to ensure that there are a sufficient number of fully-credentialed and well-prepared teachers to instruct preschool children with disabilities and developmental delays so that the quality of instructional services received by children and their families is resolute. Early childhood teachers and intervention specialists will benefit from the PKSN program by acquiring advanced knowledge and skills to enhance the early educational opportunities for preschool children with special needs.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
Through a series of three courses, teachers licensed in early childhood or as an intervention specialist can add the state’s professional teaching Endorsement in PKSN, which permits teachers to work with children 3-5 years of age with developmental delays and disabilities.

One course is offered each semester. All courses are online. Each course requires 20 field hours working with children 3-5 years with developmental delays or disabilities.

PROGRAM COURSES
Summer: EDSP 5800 Typical and Atypical Development (3 credit hours)

Fall: EDSP 5820 Assessment in Early Childhood Special Education (3 credit hours)

Spring: EDSP 5830 Methods in Early Childhood Special Education (3 credit hours)

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
Our next cohort is scheduled to begin in May during our Summer term. Applications will be available online beginning in January. The deadline for applying for the Summer cohort is April 10.

You must complete the online application on our website. Please include the following items: Ohio University application with official transcripts from previous institutions; copy of Early Childhood or Intervention Specialist teaching license; resume; statement of professional goals; and one letter of recommendation. You may submit official transcripts from any previous institutions to: Graduate College, Ohio University, 220 Research & Technology Center Athens, OH 45701.

WHO CAN TAKE THESE COURSES
Only currently licensed teachers or undergraduates who graduate in spring and are expecting to receive licensure over the summer are eligible for this program. Because courses are offered at the graduate level, they may be used to renew your teaching license. Unfortunately, this endorsement is not part of the senior to graduate students program. You must have at least a 2.9 Undergraduate GPA to be accepted. In order to be recommended for the Endorsement, complete all courses with a 2.75 cumulative GPA and pass the Ohio Assessments for Educators (OAE) Early Childhood Special Education Exam 013 with a score 220.

TUITION AND FINANCIAL AID
Please visit the Office of the Bursar 2016-2017 Tuition Schedule (select Off Campus Graduate Programs) for current tuition and fees. Ohio University Faculty and Staff should contact us before registering.

Each year, five $1,000 needs-based scholarships are offered to support candidates from diverse backgrounds in completing the PKSN Endorsement.

Students pursuing the PreK Special Needs Endorsement program may consider the private alternative loan as a resource. Information about alternative loans is found on the website for the Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships. For assistance with financial aid questions, please e-mail financial.aid.elearn@ohio.edu

For complete program information or to learn more about other online endorsement programs please visit the Patton College website. If you have questions about eligibility, please contact Jennifer Ottley at: ottley@ohio.edu