

Education Specialist Level I Credential Program Information and Application

PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

Thank you for your interest in the Education Specialist Level I Credential Program. The program prepares candidates to teach individuals in the areas of Mild/Moderate and Moderate/Severe disabilities. The program's **goals** are to assist candidates in becoming:

- Effective and caring teachers;
- Partners with parents and others in the development of high quality educational programs;
- Life long learners engaged in program development reflective of best practices in special education.

The program themes of *Collaboration, Diversity, Literacy, Technology, and Transition* emphasize current issues of importance to the field of special education, and are addressed across our curriculum.

The Education Specialist Credential is a two-tier program: Level I and Level II. Requirements for Level I include a sequence of coursework along with broad and varied fieldwork experiences. The Level I program sequence is included in this packet. Following completion of the first tier, students may apply for a Preliminary Level I Credential. The Professional Level II Credential must subsequently be completed within two to five years. A separate application is required for the Level II program. Please visit <http://www.ced.csulb.edu/special-education> for complete information about our program and to view the online version of the Education Specialist Credential Program Handbook. For information about program orientation meetings for new applicants, test preparation workshops, and other program inquiries please visit <http://www.ced.csulb.edu/cedinfo>

Several preparatory conditions and courses must be completed prior to full acceptance into the Education Specialist Level I Credential Program. ***Students may apply to the program concurrent with completion of prerequisite courses, and may be admitted on a conditional basis.*** As a condition of admission, students are required to meet with program faculty for advisement on a sequence of coursework.

CONDITIONS FOR FULL ACCEPTANCE:

- Complete application form (refer to the application instructions in this packet)
- Admission to University/Graduate status
- G.P.A. of at least 2.75 for the last 60 semester or 90 quarter units, or 2.67 overall
- Completion and passage of oral interview with program faculty
- Verification of CBEST attempt; verification of passage is preferred
- Current TB test verification
- Demonstration of Subject Matter Competence – Passage of CSET (all three Multiple Subject subtests) or MSAT (Scores valid for five years after test date and must be valid at the time credential is completed)
- Completion of prerequisite courses
- Complete and provide documentation of a field experience of at least 45 hours in a K-12 general education setting

PREREQUISITE COURSES (12 units; MUST BE COMPLETED OR IN PROGRESS BEFORE ENROLLING IN LEVEL I COURSES):

- ED P 301 or 302 Child Development or Adolescent Development (3 units)
- EDSP 350 Education of Exceptional Individuals (3 units)
- EDSP 454 Development of Communication Skills in Bilingual Contexts (3 units)
- ETEC 444 Computer Technology in Education I (3 units) or Passage of CSET Preliminary Educational Technology Examination

Department of Educational Psychology, Administration and Counseling
College of Education * California State University, Long Beach

**Program Completion Sequence beginning Fall, 2006 for the
Education Specialist Credential Level I: Mild/Moderate & Moderate/Severe**

Prerequisite Conditions for Full Admission*:

- Admission to CSULB / upper division or graduate status
- Subject Matter Competency: CSET (MSAT)
- Verification of CBEST attempt
- Current TB clearance
- 2.67 overall GPA or 2.75 GPA in last 60 semester units
- Completion of a 45 hour field experience in a K-12 setting
- Certificate of Clearance

Prerequisite Classes* (12 units):

- ED P 301 Child Development (3) **OR** EDP 302 Adolescent Development (3)
- ED SP 350 Education of Exceptional Individuals (3)
- ED SP 454 Development of Language Skills in Bilingual Contexts (3)
- E TEC 444, Computer Technology in Education (3) **OR** Passage of the CSET Preliminary Educ. Tech. Test

*** Students may apply to the program for conditional admission while completing Prerequisite Courses**

Requirements to enroll in Level I Program Courses:

- Submit written application packet including letters of recommendation, essay, transcripts, copies of any credentials held, proof of 45 hours field experience in general education setting.
- Complete application/interview acceptance process. Level I courses MAY NOT be taken prior to admission to the program.

Level I Courses (21 units)

- ED SP 480 Foundations of Inclusive Education in a Diverse Society (3)
- ED P 405 Positive Strategies for Classroom Management (3)
- ED EL 452 Teaching Reading, K-8 (3)
- ED EL 462 Teaching Mathematics in Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Classrooms (3)
- ED SP 564 Assessment and Evaluation of Students with Disabilities (3)
- ED SP 567 Curriculum and Instruction for Students with Disabilities: Literacy, Communication, Social and Physical Education (3) (Advisor permit required)
- ED SP 569 Curriculum and Instruction for Students with Disabilities: Math, Science, and Life Skills (3) (Advisor permit required)

Requirements for Final Field Study

- Apply for Certificate of Clearance
- Attend Fieldwork Information Mtg and Submit Fieldwork application
- Passage of CBEST
- Up-to-date and approved Advisement Plan Form

Level I Final Field Study (12 units)

ED SP 587/588 A & B Advanced Field Study and Seminar (6 & 6)

May be taken concurrently under certain conditions with advisor approval.

Students pursuing dual M/M/S authorization must complete an additional 6 units of field studies.

Other Requirements

- Pass RICA
- Meet U.S. Constitution Requirement
- Apply for Preliminary Credential and begin Level II. (Students may apply to Level II concurrently during their final semester of fieldwork. Students may also apply for the Master of Science in Special Education degree program. Admission is not automatic; see the Graduate Office in ED 1 – 7 for deadlines and information.)

Visit our web site at: <http://www.ced.csulb.edu/special-education> for complete program information and an online version of the Education Specialist Credential Program Handbook

The Education Specialist Level I Credential Program

Frequently Asked Questions

Is there a need for Special Education teachers? Yes, there is a severe shortage of qualified special education teachers, both state wide and locally. This pattern is expected to continue for the next several years.

What is the Level I and Level II special education credential structure in California? Candidates in the Education Specialist Credential program will first earn a Preliminary Level I Credential and then have five years to complete a Professional Level II Credential. The major goal of Level I preparation is to prepare individuals to perform the responsibilities of entry-level special education teachers in a variety of settings. Professional Level II preparation is intended to enable employed and practicing teachers to apply their Preliminary Level I preparation to the demands of professional positions while also fostering advanced skills and knowledge. While special education teachers no longer need a basic teaching credential (Multiple or Single Subject Credentials) in order to receive an Education Specialist Credential, they do need to complete some general education coursework and field experiences as part of their credential requirements.

What special education credential authorizations are offered at CSULB?

We offer the Mild/Moderate and Moderate/Severe Education Specialist Credential Authorizations.

I have taken special education coursework at a different University. Will some of my courses transfer?

Yes, some of your courses may be transferred if they match the required course content and goals and if they have been taken within the last 7 years. You will need to complete a course equivalency form, which you can obtain from the Teacher Preparation Advising Center.

What role can a teacher with the Education Specialist Credential have in a general education class? The Education Specialist Credential authorizes you to teach students with disabilities, grades K-12, in a variety of settings: special day class; resource specialist program; and in an inclusive classroom. While you cannot be the teacher of record in a general education classroom, you will be authorized to provide support to students with disabilities in general education settings in at least the following ways:

- Co-teaching with a credentialed general education teacher
- Providing small group and/or individualized instruction to students with identified disabilities as well as non-disabled students in the general education classroom setting
- Providing supervision for the special education instructional assistant working in a general education classroom setting
- Working as an Inclusion Support Teacher or Inclusion Facilitator
- Actively collaborating and consulting with general educators in order to support students with disabilities

How long will it take me to complete the credential? The Education Specialist Credential is a two-tier program. Level I contains 33 units (excluding prerequisites) and can be completed in a year and half of full time study. Most of our students are teaching full-time and take 2 – 2 1/2 years to complete Level I. At the completion of Level I coursework, you will apply for the Level I credential. Then you will be ready to begin Professional Level II which contains 15 units. Level II is closely aligned with the Master of Science in Special Education program. After completing Level II requirements, you will apply for your Level II credential.

Does CSULB offer an Intern program? The Education Specialist Intern Program (ESIP) is an option for those who are working as special education teachers of students with mild/moderate or moderate/severe disabilities in partner districts. The application process is unique to ESIP. Please contact the Program Coordinator for complete information.

How and when do I apply? You must submit both a university application and a program application. You may submit a program application while you are awaiting admission to the university. You may also enroll in one or more of the required prerequisites through University College and Extension Services, prior to admission to the university. Deadline for submission of a completed application for Fall admission is March 1; and for Spring admission is October 1.

Where do I complete my 45-hour K- 12 general education field experience? You are expected to provide documentation (see attached form) of having completed a field experience lasting a minimum of 45 hours in K-12 general education settings. These experiences could be in a general education classroom setting at the elementary or secondary level, an inclusive general education classroom that serves students with/without disabilities, or a general education setting that includes students with disabilities who spend part of their school day in this setting. These hours may be earned through observation in these settings, or while working as a classroom teacher, substitute teacher, paraeducator, or while completing your student teacher in a different credential program.

**The Education Specialist Level I Credential Program
Program Faculty**

Ms. Dina Cassidy, Full-time Lecturer
ED2-203; 562-985-7807
dcassidy@csulb.edu

Dr. Jennifer Coots, Associate Professor
Level II and Master's Degree Coordinator
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Ms. Rebecca Dennis, Full-time Lecturer
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rdennis3@csulb.edu

Dr. Gary Greene, Professor
ED 2 – 258; (562) 985-5712
ggreene@csulb.edu

Dr. Sara Goldberg-Hamblin, Assistant Professor
Education Specialist ITEP Pathway Coordinator
ED 1 – 26; (562) 985-4441
sgoldber@csulb.edu

Ms. Susan Leonard-Giesen, Full-time Lecturer
ED 2 – 268; (562) 985-5611
slgiesen@csulb.edu

Dr. Shireen Pavri, Associate Professor
Level I and Level I Intern Program Coordinator
ED 1 – 35; (562) 985-5646
spavri@csulb.edu

Dr. Catherine Richards, Assistant Professor
ED 2 – 266; (562) 985- 1938
crichar4@csulb.edu

Program Admissions Information

Ms. Jan Condou, Director of Admissions
ED1-67; (562) 985-9259
cedinfo@csulb.edu

For information about program orientation meetings for new applicants, test preparation workshops, and other program inquiries please visit <http://www.ced.csulb.edu/cedinfo>

Application Instructions

For Fall Admission – completed applications must be submitted by March 1
For Spring Admission – completed applications must be submitted by October 1

Submit completed applications to the Teacher Preparation Advising Center, ED 1 – 67, College of Education

Instructions: Type or print neatly. Answer each item on the application completely and accurately. Include all necessary attachments with your application. Providing false information on your application may result in denial or revocation of admission to the Education Specialist Level I Credential Program. If you require any reasonable accommodations to complete this application or the application process, please call the Teacher Preparation Advising Center (562-985-9259).

Please note that this application is not appropriate to the Education Specialist Intern Program (ESIP). Contact the ESIP Coordinator through the Teacher Preparation Advising Center if you are interested in an Intern credential.

In addition to a completed application form, the following items must be included:

1. Letters of recommendation: Two (2) letters of recommendation are required from individuals who are well acquainted with your educational training, teaching or other experience, and related activities. One must be from your current supervisor. If possible, one should be from a CSULB faculty member. By including any letters in your packet, you agree we may contact the writers for additional information concerning your work and personal qualifications. Please ensure that your letters are on letterhead, dated and include full contact information for the writer.

2. Personal Essay: On a separate sheet, please write an essay (1 – 2 pages, typed or word processed) that tells us about you. Be sure to address at least the following topics: (1) How did your interest in special education begin? (2) What experiences, training, and talents do you bring to the area of special education? (3) What are your short term and long-term career goals? and (4) How do our program goals (see page 1) fit your personal goals?

3. Transcripts: provide photocopies of official transcripts for all colleges or universities you have attended, including CSULB.

4. Tuberculosis Clearance: Photocopy of verification of negative test for TB (or clear chest xray) taken within the last 3 years.

5. CBEST: Photocopy of CBEST attempt or passage. Passing CBEST is required before enrolling in Final Field Study.

6. Verification of Subject Matter Competency: Photocopy of CSET (Multiple Subjects) or MSAT passage.

7. CSULB status: Photocopy of verification of admission to the University.

8. Credentials: Photocopies of any teaching credentials, certificates or waivers you already hold, including any from other states.

9. Certificate of Clearance: Submit an application for a Certificate of Clearance to the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC), or provide evidence of recent fingerprint clearance. Submit a copy of the Certificate as demonstration of clearance, or a copy of a certified mail receipt as demonstration of submitting an application.

10. Proof of completing 45 hours in K-12 General Education Setting: Please complete the form attached to this application and provide the necessary information and signatures as evidence of your completion of 45 hours in a general education setting.

Once your application has been received it will be screened by the Director of Admissions, and the Education Specialist Level I Program Coordinator. Upon approval, you will be notified about scheduling a mandatory interview with faculty. Admission to the program requires successful passage of the oral interview in addition to submitting a completed and approved application packet.

Candidates will be expected to demonstrate proficiency in reading and writing English by (1) attaining a minimum passing score of 37 on each of the reading and writing portions of the CBEST exam; and/or (2) through demonstration of appropriate writing skills on your personal essay and oral communication skills in the oral interview with program faculty. Candidates will demonstrate personality and character traits that satisfy the standards of the teaching profession and suitable aptitude for teaching in public schools through the application documentation and oral interview with program faculty.

California State University, Long Beach
Department of Educational Psychology, Administration, & Counseling
Education Specialist Level I Credential Program

45 HOURS IN GENERAL EDUCATION FIELD EXPERIENCE DESCRIPTION FORM
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Candidate's name: _____

Observation Site: _____

Supervisor's name: _____

Supervisor's phone number: _____

Supervisor's signature: _____

Dates of experience: _____

Length of experience (i.e., number of hours): _____

Description of students (e.g., grades, ages, disability): _____

Type of K-12 setting (e.g., general education class, inclusive classroom, RSP/collaborative setting, etc.):

Candidate's Signature: _____ Today's Date: _____

Note: Applicants must complete a 45-hour field experience in K-12 general education settings and complete this form as evidence of your having met this field experience in order to be eligible for full admission to the Education Specialist Level I Credential Program or Education Specialist Intern Program. While this completed form serves as sufficient evidence, you can include accompanying evidence of having completed this 45-hour general education experience, such as a log of your hours spent as a paraeducator in a general education classroom, a substitute teaching log, a student teaching log for your Multiple or Single Subject credential, etc. By signing this form, you agree for us to contact the supervisor listed on this form for additional information. Please note that providing false information on this form may result in denial or revocation of admission to the Education Specialist Program.



California State University, Long Beach
 College of Education
EDUCATION SPECIALIST
LEVEL I CREDENTIAL PROGRAM APPLICATION

Elementary & Special Education Advising Center, ED1-67
 Phone: 562-985-9259

Please submit your application packet to the Elementary and Special Education Center, ED1-67 prior to the March 1 (for Fall admission) or October 1 (Spring admission) deadline. Be sure to complete the application in full and attach the required documents.

Please note that this application is NOT appropriate to the Education Specialist Intern Program (ESIP). Contact the ESIP Coordinator through the Elementary & Special Education Center (562) 985-9259.

INSTRUCTIONS: Please **print legibly**, sign and complete the application in full.

Application for: _____ CSULB Campus ID #: _____ Social Security # _ _ - _ - _ _
semester/year

Credential Objective: Mild/Moderate Moderate/Severe Dual M/M/S

Date of Birth ____/____/____ Male Female
mm dd yyyy

Name _____
Last First M.I.

Address _____
Number/Street Apt# City Zip Code

Home Phone (____) _____ Work Phone (____) _____ Cell Phone (____) _____

E-mail _____ (Please be sure to check this address regularly. We will contact you via email with any issues/questions regarding your application.)

Please choose one of the following: White African-American Hispanic Asian/Pacific Islander
 Native American Multi-Ethnic Decline to State Other

BA/BS Degree Major: _____

Class Standing at Time of Admission to Education Specialist Credential Program:

Graduate* Senior Junior Upper division Sophomore Yes No
 * Grad Application to University Submitted? (application to the University is required)

BEGINNING WITH THE MOST RECENT, LIST ALL COLLEGES, COMMUNITY COLLEGES, & UNIVERSITIES ATTENDED, INCLUDING CSULB. Enclose a photocopy of an OFFICIAL transcript FOR EACH Institution attended.

Transcript is enclosed Y/N	College/University	Dates Attended	Degree	City/State

