Preliminary Education Specialist Credential: Moderate/Severe Disabilities with EL Authorization

Basic Teaching Credentials

The CSU prepares teachers for positions in California as well as other states. It is in the student's best interest to be knowledgeable about credential or licensure requirements of the state in which they intend to teach.

Requirements (44-52 units)

The Preliminary Education Specialist Program has been developed in compliance with the changes required by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC). Candidates will be admitted to this program beginning in the Winter quarter 2011. According to the CTC, candidates completing the Preliminary Education Specialist credential in Moderate/Severe Disabilities are authorized to conduct assessments, provide instruction, and special education related services to individuals with a primary disability of autism, moderate/severe/profound mental retardation, deaf-blind, emotional disturbance, and multiple disabilities in kindergarten, grades 1 through 12 to age 22, and classes organized for adults. The program also meets state standards authorizing instruction to English learners to develop English language skills including reading.

Admission to the Program

Applicants must apply to CSUSB via CSUMentor in addition to submitting a complete Program Admission File (PAF) to be considered for admission to the Preliminary Education Specialist Credential Program in Moderate/Severe Disabilities. Applicants must meet BOTH the general requirements of the University for Postbaccalaureate Admission and the program requirements in order to be admitted to the university and classified as a credential candidate. In preparation for admission to the basic credential program, applicants must review the Special Education Credential Program Admission Booklet which can be downloaded from the Special Education Program web pages on the CSUSB website at: CSU Special Education Program website (http://www.csusb.edu/coe/programs/special_ed) and attend a mandatory Information Session scheduled through Teacher Education in the College of Education Student Services at either the San Bernardino or Palm Desert campus. At this session, applicants will receive instructions for completing their PAF. Applicants must submit a PAF to the Admissions staff in the College of Education Student Services Supervision desk; one quarter in advance of the time candidates intend to enroll in supervised student teaching (ESPE 620 and ESPE 621), they must submit an application for supervision. This application is due by Friday of the third week of the quarter prior to enrolling in supervised student teaching (no applications are accepted in the summer).

Upon admission to the university and the Preliminary Education Specialist Credential Program, all candidates must attend the mandatory New Student Orientation. At this session, candidates will receive a program handbook and will be advised on completing an approved Coursework Plan.

Admission to Supervised Student Teaching

One quarter in advance of the time candidates intend to enroll in supervised student teaching (ESPE 620 and ESPE 621), they must submit an application for supervision. This application is due by Friday of the third week of the quarter prior to enrolling in supervised student teaching (no applications are accepted in the summer).

Admission to supervised student teaching is based on the following criteria and conditions:

1. Completion of an application form submitted to the College of Education Student Services Supervision desk;
2. Verification of an approved Coursework Plan including documentation of approved course substitutions;
3. Verification of complete PAF with official written verification that the applicant has passed the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) and subject matter competency;
4. Satisfactory completion of program prerequisites and credential coursework (ESPE 610, ESPE 611, ESPE 612, ESPE 613 and ESPE 514) with a grade point average of 3.0 ("B") and no course grade lower than "B-";
5. Verification of a negative tuberculin examination within the last four years.

All coursework taken at another college and substituted for credential program requirements is subject to approval by the director of the Special
Education Program. No more than 12 units of the credential program may be substituted. Student teaching is never transferable.

Student teaching for the credential is a full-time assignment for one quarter each of ESPE 620B (concurrent with no more than two required credential courses) and ESPE 621B (concurrent with no more than the final two required credential courses). No concurrent course work should be taken beyond the required Preliminary Education Specialist credential courses in Moderate/Severe Disabilities without permission of the program director. Students who fail to complete any required credential program coursework or ESPE 620B or ESPE 621B will be denied continuation in the program.

Recommendation for the Credential

In addition to the program admission requirements and successful completion of required credential coursework and student teaching, the candidate must successfully complete the following requirements in order to be recommended for the Preliminary Education Specialist Credential in Moderate/Severe Disabilities:

1. Completion of the upper-division writing requirement by one of the following:
   a. Completion, with a grade of "B" (3.0) or better, in an expository writing course (306) taken at this university;
   b. Completion, with a grade of "B" (3.0) or better, of an equivalent advanced expository writing course at another college or university;
   c. Satisfactory completion of the Writing Requirement Exemption Examination (WREE) offered at this university;
   d. A passing score on the written portion of the CBEST;  
   Note: CBEST exam does not meet the graduate writing requirement for the Master of Arts degree;

2. Completion of the U.S. Constitution requirement by one of the following:
   HIST 146 American Civilization 4
   HIST 200 United States History to 1877 4
   HIST 540 Constitutional History of the United States 4
   PSCI 203 American Government 4
   PSCI 410 American Constitutional Law 4
   PSCI 411 The Bill of Rights 4
   Successful completion of an examination administered through the College of Extended Learning;
   Approved U.S. Constitution course substitution from another university;

3. Verification of passing status and scores on the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST);

4. Verification of a passing score on the RICA (Reading Instruction Competence Assessment);  
   Note: Holders of a valid California teaching credential based on a baccalaureate degree and completion of a teacher education program including student teaching, will be exempt from RICA. Call the Credentials Office, (909) 537-5609, for further information.

5. A grade point average of 3.0 ("B") in professional education coursework with no course grade lower than "B-"; no candidate may be recommended for the credential who has received a grade lower than "B-" in professional education course work including prerequisites; in the case of a repeated class, only the highest grade the student has received will be considered for the purpose of this requirement.

Credential Requirements (44-52 units)

Completion of the following courses with a grade point average of 3.0 or better with no grade lower than a "B-":

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ESPE 514</td>
<td>Curriculum and Methods for Diverse Learners with Disabilities</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPE 610</td>
<td>Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPE 611</td>
<td>Assessment Methods in Special Education</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPE 612</td>
<td>Supportive Learning Environments for Students with Disabilities</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESPE 613</td>
<td>Seminar in Literacy Learning for Students with Disabilities</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESPE 620B</td>
<td>Supervised Student Teaching in Special Education I: Moderate/Severe Disabilities</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESPE 621B</td>
<td>Supervised Student Teaching in Special Education II: Moderate/Severe Disabilities</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESPE 625</td>
<td>Collaboration and Consultation in Special Education</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPE 627</td>
<td>Education of Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>ESPE 662</td>
<td>Methods for Students with Moderate/Severe Disabilities I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPE 663</td>
<td>Methods for Students with Moderate/Severe Disabilities II</td>
<td>4</td>
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Total Units 44-52

Note: Candidates who hold a valid California Multiple Subject, Single Subject, or another authorization of an Education Specialist credential are not required to complete ESPE 620B but must successfully complete ESPE 621B.