

Preliminary Education Specialist Credential: Mild/Moderate 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.

The Preliminary Education Specialist Program is accredited by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC). According to the CTC, candidates completing the Preliminary Education Specialist credential in Mild to Moderate Disabilities are authorized to conduct assessments, provide instruction, and special education related services to individuals with a primary disability of specific learning disabilities, mild to moderate mental retardation, other health impairment, emotional disturbance, and autism spectrum disorders in kindergarten, grades 1 through 12, 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 Graduate Admissions in addition to submitting a complete Program Admission File (PAF) to be considered for admission to the Preliminary Education Specialist Credential Program in Mild/Moderate 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 Programs 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 according to the deadlines published for the semester of admission. Admission to the program is based on the following requirements included in the PAF:

1. Completion of an application form;
2. Original written verification of passing score on the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST);
3. Original written verification of a passing score on the CSET examination or appropriate subject matter competency;
4. Two written recommendations by persons who can address scholastic performance and suitability for teaching (recommendation forms are available in the Special Education Credential Program Admission Booklet);

5. A written personal narrative to be reviewed and approved by the Special Education Program Coordinator;
6. Verification of a negative tuberculin examination within the last four years;
7. Academic achievement, verified through official transcripts from ALL institutions of higher education attended. Applicants must possess a minimum undergraduate grade point average of at least 2.67 in all baccalaureate and postbaccalaureate course work or at least 2.75 in the last 60 semester or 90 quarter units attempted;
8. Documentation of 45 hours of experience in K-12 classrooms;
9. Submission of an application for a certificate of clearance or evidence of a credential or permit authorizing public school teaching in California;
10. Verification of attendance at a Special Education Information Session;
11. Satisfactory completion of prerequisite courses with a grade of "B" or better (**6 units**):

ESPE 5530	Introduction to Special Education	3
ESPE 5531	Methods and Procedures in Special Education	3

Upon admission to the university and the Preliminary Education Specialist Credential Program, all candidates must participate in 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 semester in advance of the time candidates intend to enroll in supervised student teaching (ESPE 6620), they must submit an application for supervision. This application is due by Friday of the third week of the semester 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 (<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/1678079/SPED-Student-Teaching-Fieldwork-Application-Placement-Request/>) submitted online;
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 6609, ESPE 6610, ESPE 6611, ESPE 6612, ESPE 6613, ESPE 6614, and ESPE 5514) 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 coordinator of the Special Education Program. Student teaching is never transferable.

Student teaching for the credential is a full-time assignment for one semester of ESPE 6620 (concurrent with no more than two required credential courses). No concurrent course work should be taken beyond the required Preliminary Education Specialist credential courses in mild/moderate disabilities without permission of the program coordinator.

Students who fail to complete any required credential program coursework 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 Mild/Moderate 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 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 Science degree;
2. Completion of the U.S. Constitution requirement by one of the following:

Approved U.S. Constitution course successfully completed at CSUSB

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 course work, 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.

ESPE 6613	Seminar in Literacy Learning for K-12 Students with Disabilities	3
ESPE 6614	Practicum: Seminar in Literacy Learning for K-12 Students with Disabilities	1
ESPE 6625	Collaboration and Consultation in Special Education	3
ESPE 6642	Methods in Mild/Moderate Disabilities I	3
ESPE 6643	Methods in Mild/Moderate Disabilities II	3
ESPE 6620	Supervised Student Teaching in Special Education: Mild/Moderate Disabilities	6
Total Units		32

Credential Requirements (32 units)

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

ESPE 5514	Language Development in Diverse Learners	3
ESPE 6609	Practicum: Educating Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder	1
ESPE 6610	Educating Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders	3
ESPE 6611	Assessment and Evaluation for Planning and Instruction	3
ESPE 6612	Creating Supportive Learning Environments for Students with Disabilities	3