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Program Overview

The Department of Special Education is accredited by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC) and the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). The department offers exemplary credential programs in Mild/Moderate and Moderate/Severe Disabilities including an Intern Credential Program. The Department also offers an undergraduate minor in Special Education and a Master of Arts degree in Education with a concentration in Special Education.

The Special Education Credential Program offers two credential area options: (1) Educational Specialist in Mild/Moderate Disabilities; and (2) Educational Specialist in Moderate/Severe Disabilities. These credential options are offered at the main campus and also at the CSUB Antelope Valley campus.

Candidates are required to complete the Level I (Preliminary Credential) program first and then the complete Level II (Professional Clear Credential) in Special Education. The Preliminary Level I Credential is valid for five (5) years. During this time, the candidate must complete the Level II program for a Professional Clear Credential.

Additionally, the Special Education Program offers Intern Credential Programs in either Mild/Moderate Disabilities or in Moderate/Severe Disabilities. Intern Programs offer two options: (1) completing Level I and then return to pursue the Level II program; or (2) completing Level I and Level II programs combined in one sequence. All requirements for Intern Credential Programs are similar to the traditional Level I and Level II programs, except for the field experience components.

Candidates may begin the program during any quarter. Orientation and information sessions (Level I, Level II, or Intern Program) are offered at the beginning of each quarter. Candidates are required to attend the orientation session prior to submitting application materials. Each candidate is assigned a faculty advisor when admitted to the program, and candidates are required to consult with their advisor in developing the program plan.

Special Education Program Descriptions

Level I: Preliminary Special Education Credential Programs

Admission Requirements:

- Take/Pass the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST)
- BA or BS degree with an overall GPA of 2.67 or higher, or 2.75 or higher GPA in the last 90 quarter units
- Pass the CSET subject matter competency test **or** SSAT or MSAT or possess a valid California Multiple Subjects or Single Subject Credential.
- U.S. Constitution course
- Complete all required application forms and provide all required documents.
- Minimum GPA of 2.67 overall or 2.75 last 90 quarter units (Exceptional admission is an option for those not meeting either GPA requirement)

A candidate must maintain a 3.00 or higher GPA in all credential courses to remain in the program. If a candidate earns a grade lower than a "C" in any course, that course must be repeated.

Educational Specialist in Mild/Moderate Disabilities or in Moderate/Severe Disabilities

Candidates may choose an option in either Mild/Moderate Disabilities or Moderate/Severe Disabilities. The prerequisites are the same for both options. However, candidates are required to successfully complete specific courses for the chosen option. Please consult with an academic advisor for this option.

Prerequisites:

- Passage of CSET or SSAT or possession of a valid California Multiple Subjects or Single Subject Credential
- Pre-service coursework and early field experience courses in Elementary or Secondary emphasis:
EDEL 240 **or**
CAFS 210 **or**
EDSE 241
- EDSP 501
- EDSP 502 Acquisition of CTEL Certificate or equivalent English Learning Authorization (ELA), or the successful completion of:
EDBI 475 **and**
EDBI 478

Course Sequence for Mild/Moderate Disabilities Credential Option

Note: Candidates have the option to enroll in either the Elementary Education (EDEL) or Secondary Education (EDSE) courses depending upon their subject matter competence. Please consult with an academic advisor for these options.

Phase I: Foundation & Basic Understanding

1. **General Education**
EDEL 421 (2) **or** EDSE 505 (5)
EDBI 476 (3)
2. **Special Education**
EDSP 503 (5)
EDSP 506 (5)

Phase II: Skill Development

1. **General Education**
EDEL 437 (3)
EDEL 420 (4) **or**
EDSE 506 (5)
2. **Special Education**
EDSP 505 (5)
EDSP 508 (5)
EDSP 545 (5)

Phase III: Field Experience

1. **General Education**
EDEL 450 (5) **or**
EDSE 450 (5)
2. **Special Education**
EDSP 625 (5)

Course Sequence for Moderate/Severe Disabilities Credential Option

Note: Candidates have the option to enroll in Elementary Education (EDEL) or Secondary Education (EDSE) courses. **Please consult with an academic advisor for these options.**

Phase I: Foundation & Basic Understanding

1. **General Education**
EDEL 421 (2) **or** EDSE 505 (5)
EDBI 476 (3)
2. **Special Education**
EDSP 503 (5)
EDSP 517 (5)

Phase II: Skill Development

1. **General Education**

EDEL 437 (3)
EDEL 420 (4) **or**
EDSE 506 (5)

2. Special Education

EDSP 505 (5)
EDSP 631 (5)
EDSP 632 (5)

Phase III: Field Experience - Special Education

1. General Education

EDEL 450 (5) **or**
EDSE 450 (5)

2. Special Education

EDSP 635 (5)

Field Experience/Student Teaching and Placement Request

Special Education program candidates are required to complete their field experiences/student teaching in both (a) general education classrooms and (b) special education classrooms after completing all other required courses. The general education student teaching requires 100 hours of student teaching in either the elementary classroom or secondary classroom. The special education student teaching requires full-day student teaching for the entire quarter.

The request for field experience/student teaching placements must be submitted to the Field Experience Coordinator/Department Office by the fifth week of each preceding quarter. The placement request form is available at the Department of Special Education office.

The first seminar session for Special Education student teaching is typically held on the first class meeting date of each quarter. This is a mandatory seminar for all student teachers. The General Education student teaching seminar information is usually provided by the student teaching placement office prior to beginning the field experience in the general education classroom. In addition, the General Education student teaching is scheduled during the summer session for the special education credential candidates.

Level II: Professional Clear Special Education Credential Programs

Admission Requirements & Pre-requisites:

- Successful completion of the Preliminary Level I Education Specialist Credential and receipt of the Level I Credential or a Certificate of Eligibility for the Level I Credential issued by a recommending university.
- Verification of employment in a special education position that is likely to have sufficient duration for the Level II program to be completed. (Employment as a substitute teacher will not meet this requirement.)
- An overall GPA of 3.00 or better; an overall GPA of 2.75 is needed for Special Admission.
- Acquisition of the CTEL or an equivalent English Learning Authorization (ELA) Certificate or successful completion of EDBI 475-Introduction to Multicultural Education, EDBI 476-Introduction to Language Acquisition and Development and EDBI 478 Introduction to Teaching English as a Second Language to meet the ELA Certificate.
- Attend a Level II program orientation meeting held at the beginning of each quarter.

Course Sequence

Phase I: Establishing Direction

1. EDSP 650 (2)
2. EDSP 660 (1-5)
3. EDSP 680 (3)

Phase II: Gaining Focus

1. EDSP 529* (3)
2. EDSP 688* (3)

3. EDSP 690 (3)

* The two courses, EDSP 529 and 688, are also required for the MA Degree in Special Education.

Phase III: Assuming Leadership

1. EDSP 695 (2)

Additional CCTC Requirements

1. Technology in Education: EDCI 579 or LBST 390 and EDCI 560 **or** Equivalency waiver (CTAP I & CTAP II Certificates)
2. Health Education: BIOL 220 **or** Equivalency waiver for Health Education
3. Current CPR Certificate (infants, children and adults)
4. U. S. Constitution
5. Two years of special education teaching experience while holding the Level I credential in special education

Special Education Intern Credential Program

The Special Education Intern Credential Program offers two options: (1) Preliminary Credential (Level I) and (2) Clear Credential (Level I & Level II) programs in either Mild/Moderate or Moderate/Severe Disabilities. All required courses for the Level I and Level II Intern Program are the same as the traditional program requirements except for the field experience requirement. Intern program candidates are required to successfully complete six intern seminars (EDSP 636 A-F) during the two-year span, while traditional program candidates are required to successfully complete student teaching in a general classroom setting (EDEL 450 or EDSE 450) in addition to student teaching in a special education classroom (EDSP 625 or EDSP 635). The Special Education Intern Credential Program is also available at the CSUB Antelope Valley campus.

Prerequisite requirements for the Intern Program:

- Bachelor's Degree
- Passage of CBEST
- Subject Matter Competency (CSET or SSAT & PRAXIS passage)
- U. S. Constitution
- Contract or letter of intent to hire from a participating school district
- Completed Intern Application and other accompanying documents
- EDEL 240 or CAFS 210 or EDSE 241 and EDSP 501& EDSP 502. These courses may be taken during the first quarter as an Intern.
- Acquisition of the CTEL or an Equivalent of the English Learning Authorization (ELA) Certificate or EDBI 475 Introduction to Cross-Cultural Education* and EDBI 478 Introduction to Teaching English as a Second Language*

* The EDBI courses may be taken during Phase I of the intern program.

Course Sequence in Intern Credential Programs

Option I Intern Credential Program

Candidates in Option I program are required to complete all required Phase I & II courses for Level I program within two years with six (6) intern seminars of EDSP 636 A-F.

Option II Intern Credential Program

Candidates in the Option II program are required to complete all required courses for Level I & II within two years with six (6) intern seminars of EDSP 636 A-F. This option is recommended only for those who hold general education credentials at the time of application to the Special Education Intern Credential Program.

California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC) Requirements for Option II

1. Technology in Education: EDCI 579 or LBST 390 and EDCI 560 **or** Equivalency waiver (CTAP I & CTAP II Certificates)
2. Health Education: BIOL 220 **or** Equivalency waiver for Health Education

3. CPR Certificate
4. U. S. Constitution
5. Two years of special education teaching experience while holding the Intern Credential.