Program in Special Education
School of Social Sciences and Education
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Program Description
The Special Education Program is accredited by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC) and the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). The program offers exemplary credential programs in Mild/Moderate and Moderate/Severe Disabilities including an Intern Credential Program. The Program 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 Preliminary Credential program first and then the complete Clear Induction program in Special Education. The Preliminary Credential is valid for five (5) years. During this time, the candidate must complete the Clear Induction 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 candidates are required to complete the Preliminary Intern program and then pursue the Clear Induction program. All requirements for Intern Credential Preliminary Credential Programs are similar to the traditional preliminary credential programs, except for the field experience components.

Candidates may begin the program during any quarter. Orientation and information sessions 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.

Time Limits for Coursework
All Credential coursework must be completed within a 7-year period of time. This time limit requirement means that no more than seven (7) years may elapse between the start of the term for the earliest dated course approved for the Plan of Study and the date the application for recommendation of a credential is approved.

Special Education Program Descriptions
Preliminary Special Education Credential Programs
Admission Requirements:
1. Take/Pass the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST).
2. 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.
3. Subject Matter Competency Verification: Evidence of a valid California Teaching credential or Passage of CSET in multiple subject or any core single subject area must be provided.
5. Complete all required application forms and provide all required documents.
6. 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).
7. Reference: 3 references from those who know you and your potential for a special education teaching career. Forms are provided in the application packet.
8. Autobiography: Typed 2-3 page description of your characteristics, interests, and motivation to become a special education teacher.

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:
- Pre-service coursework and early field experience courses in Elementary or Secondary emphasis: EDTE 300 or CAFS 210.
- EDSP 501, 502, 415.
- Acquisition of CTEL Certificate or equivalent English Learning Authorization (ELA), or the successful completion of: EDTE 410, 416.
Requirements for the Mild/Moderate Disabilities Credential Option
Phase I: Foundation & Basic Understanding
1. General Education
   EDTE 410, 416
2. Special Education
   EDSP 503, 506
Phase II: Skill Development
1. General Education
   EDEL 460, 461
2. Special Education
   EDSP 505, 510, 545
Phase III: Field Experience
1. General Education
   EDSP 450
2. Special Education
   EDSP 625

Requirements for the Moderate/Severe Disabilities Credential Option
Phase I: Foundation & Basic Understanding
1. General Education
   EDTE 410, 416
2. Special Education
   EDSP 503, 517
Phase II: Skill Development
1. General Education
   EDEL 460, 461
2. Special Education
   EDSP 505, 510, 632
Phase III: Field Experience - Special Education
1. General Education
   EDSP 450
2. Special Education
   EDSP 635

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 at least 100 hours of student teaching in either an elementary classroom or a secondary classroom setting. 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 Credential’s office.

The Special Education student teaching orientation session is typically held on the week before a quarter starts. This is a mandatory meeting for all student teachers. The General Education student teaching seminar information is provided by the student teaching placement office prior to beginning the field experience in the general education classroom.

Professional Clear Special Education Credential Programs
Admission Requirements and Prerequisites:
- Successful completion of the Preliminary or Level I Education Specialist Credential and receipt of the Level I or Preliminary Credential.
- Verification of employment in a special education position.
- 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 EDTE 416 and 410.
- Attend a Clear Induction program orientation meeting held at the beginning of each quarter.

Requirements for the Clear Induction Program
1. Induction Seminar
   EDSP 650
2. Option I: Positive Behavior Support (Total of 3 courses). Select three courses from the following list: EDSP 585, 660, 688, 690
3. Option II: Specialized Curriculum and Instruction (Total of 3 courses)
   EDSP 680, 688
   Select one course from the following list:
   EDEL 460, 463, EDSP 585, 660
4. Option III: Focus on Autism (Leads to Autism Authorization)
   EDSP 570, 585, 660
5. Assessment of Professional Competency (Required for all candidates)
   EDSP 695

Additional Requirements for Candidates with a Level I Credential
Candidates with a Level I credential will meet with a university advisor at their entry to the program and assess their competencies of the contents that are not addressed in the Clear credential program. In addition, Candidates with a Level I credential must meet following statutory requirements.
- Health Education: Health requirement can be completed by taking BIOL 220 at CSUB or an equivalent course at other universities.
- Technology requirement: Candidates are required to take EDSP 415 at CSUB or an approved university course.
- CPR: A valid CPR certificate should be submitted.

Special Education Intern Credential Program
The Special Education Intern Credential Program offers two options: (1) Preliminary Credential and (2) Clear Induction Credential programs in either Mild/Moderate or Moderate/
Severe Disabilities. All required courses for the Preliminary 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 (EDSP 450) in addition to student teaching in a special education classroom (EDSP 625 or 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 Verification: Evidence of a valid California Teaching credential or Passage of CSET in multiple subject or any core single subject area must be provided.
- U. S. Constitution.
- Contract or letter of intent to hire from a participating school district.
- Completed Intern Application and other accompanying documents.
- EDTE 300 or CAFS 210 and EDSP 501 and 502. These courses may be taken during the first quarter as an Intern. *The EDTE courses may be taken during Phase I of the intern program.

**Requirements for the Intern Credential Programs**

1. **Preliminary Intern Credential Program**
   All intern candidates are required to complete all required courses for the Level I program within two years with six (6) intern seminars of EDSP 636 A-F.