

Preliminary Education Specialist

1. Literacy Instruction. The program includes the study of effective means of teaching literacy, in accordance with 44259 (b)(4)(A) and (B).

In all coursework and fieldwork for the Educational Specialist Program, candidates are required to demonstrate knowledge of multiple methods for developing English language skills in English Learners. All candidates are required to take EDSP 4100: Teaching Linguistically and Culturally Diverse students in SPED ([CSUB Course Catalog Special Education Credential Admission Requirements](#) and [EDSP 4100 Syllabus](#)). This 3-semester-unit course provides instruction and practice in assessing and designing instruction for English Learners and students with special needs.

During the program, Educational Specialist candidates take EDEL 5100: *Literacy and the Arts for Diverse Learners*, which requires candidates to differentiate reading lessons for a variety of diverse learners ([CSUB Course Catalog Special Education Program Requirements](#) and [EDEL 5100 Syllabus](#)). Additionally, Educational Specialist candidates demonstrate knowledge of supporting students in developing English language skills in the Teaching Performance Assessments. Educational Specialist candidates demonstrate knowledge of supporting students in developing English Language skills on the Reading Instruction Competency Assessment (sunset June 30, 2025) or the Literacy Performance Assessment (July 1, 2025).

The CSUB Educational Specialist program met the commission-required [SB-488 requirements](#), see the [Literacy Certification Letter](#). The program has completed its full review and course updates for TPE 7 and Program Standard 7, see the [Literacy Certification Webpage](#).

2. Assessing Candidates for Subject Matter Competence.

The program sponsor has a timely and systematic process for evaluating and notifying candidates of their standing in relation to the subject matter competence requirement.

This process includes:

- **Providing candidates with clear and accurate information in all advising and application materials about all options available to demonstrate subject matter competence, pursuant to Education Code Section 44259(b)(5)(a), Title 5 Code of Regulations §80096.**
- **Within the first 60 days of the candidate's admission, the institution must complete an assessment of each candidate's standing in relation to demonstration of the subject matter competence requirement, including whether a coursework evaluation will be needed, and notify candidates of that standing.**

CSUB applicants are required to submit for Subject Matter Competency when applying to the credential program. Support and directions for submitting are provided on the [SMC webpage](#).

Applicants are notified of the SMC decision prior to program admission and are provided with additional guidance as needed.

3. Demonstration of Subject Matter Competency. The approved preliminary teacher preparation program sponsor determines that each candidate meets the subject matter requirement prior to being given daily whole class instructional responsibilities in a TK-12 school.

Candidates enrolled in an integrated undergraduate teacher preparation program may begin the daily whole class instruction portion of their student teaching experience before meeting the subject matter requirement. However, all candidates must meet the subject matter requirement before being recommended for their preliminary teaching credential.

A) For Education Specialist programs, the candidate provides evidence of having demonstrated subject matter competence through one of the following methods:

- 1. Completion of a subject matter program approved by the Commission on the basis of standards of program quality and effectiveness. Reference: Education Code 44259 (b)(5)(A)(i).**
- 2. Passage of a Commission-approved subject matter examination. Reference: Education Code 44259 (b)(5)(A)(ii).**
- 3. Successful completion of coursework at one or more regionally accredited institution of higher education that addresses each of the domains of the subject matter requirements adopted by the Commission in the content area of the credential pursuant to Section 44282, as verified by a Commission-approved program of professional preparation. Coursework completed at a community or junior college that is regionally accredited by an accrediting agency listed in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (g) of Section 44203 or by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges may count for purposes of this clause. Reference: Education Code 44259 (b)(5)(A)(iii), Title 5 Code of Regulations §80096.**
- 4. Successful completion of a baccalaureate or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education with either a major in one of the subject areas in which the Commission credentials candidates or a Liberal Studies, Liberal Arts, or Elementary Education major, or other major that includes coursework in the content areas pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 44282, Title 5 Code of Regulations §80096.**
 - i. For Single Subject credentials, a major in one of the subject areas in which the Commission credentials candidates, as indicated in Education Code Sections 44259(b)(5)(A)(iv)(I) and 44282 (b).**
 - ii. For Multiple Subject credentials, a liberal studies major or other degree that includes coursework in the content areas as indicated in Education Code 44259(b)(5)(A)(iv)(II) and 44282 (b).**

5. **A combination of the methods described in 1, 2, or 3 above that, together, demonstrate that the candidate has met or exceeded the domains of the subject matter requirements adopted by the Commission. Education Code 44259 (b)(5)(A)(v), 44282 (b), Title 5 Code of Regulations §80096.**

Candidates in the Education Specialist Credential Program at CSUB are required to provide evidence of having met the subject matter competence requirement as a basis for full admission to the program and therefore meet the requirement prior to student teaching. Applicants who pass a minimum of 1 of the 3 sections of the CSET exam may apply for conditional admission to the program. The candidate must be subject matter competent via coursework or exam prior to final student teaching. This requirement is listed and detailed in the Admissions Requirements on the [Preliminary Education Specialist Credential Program Application and Admissions Guidelines](#), available on the [Special Education Program website](#). The subject matter requirement is also addressed in the [Special Education Preliminary and Intern Credential Handbook](#). Candidates who were granted conditional admission to the program must submit evidence of passage of the remaining subtest(s) within one semester of enrolling.

4. Completion of Requirements.

A college or university or school district that operates a program for the Education Specialist teaching credential shall determine, prior to recommending a candidate for the credential, that the candidate meets all legal requirements for the credential, including but not limited to: *Reference: Education Code Sections 44225(a), 44227, and 44283.2(a).*

- **Possession of a baccalaureate or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution**
- **Satisfaction of the Basic Skills Requirement**
- **Completion of an accredited professional preparation program**
- **Completion of the subject matter requirement**
- **Demonstration of knowledge of the principles and provisions of the Constitution of the United States**
- **Passage of the Reading Instruction Competence Assessment (RICA)**
- **Passage of a Commission-approved Teaching Performance Assessment (for candidates enrolling after July 1, 2022)**

The preparation to recommend a candidate for the Education Specialist Credential begins at the program admission phase. To be admitted to the Education Specialist Credential Program at CSUB, candidates initially provide evidence of the following credential requirements:

- Possession of a BA/BS or higher from a regionally accredited institution
- Satisfaction of the Basic Skills Requirement (e.g. CBEST)
- Completion of the subject matter requirement
- Certificate of Clearance Issuance

- GPA of 2.67 overall or 2.75 last 90 quarter/60 semester units
- Health clearance (TB/MMR)

Upon completion of all of the professional preparation program coursework and clinical practice outlined on the candidate's Credential Program Plan ([ESN Course Sequence](#) or [MMSN Course Sequence](#)), candidates must complete a [Preliminary Credential Application](#), which requires that candidates submit documentation/evidence of completion of the remaining requirements:

- U.S. Constitution Course or equivalent
- Passage of the Reading Instruction Competence Assessment (RICA)
- Health Education
- Valid CPR certificate
- Completion of the CSU Exit Survey

The credential analyst evaluates the [Preliminary Credential Application](#) (see page 2) of each Education Specialist credential candidate to ensure that all of the legal requirements have been met prior to recommending a candidate for the credential. Each legal requirement is recorded on the [Credential Analyst's Recommendation Form](#) that accompanies the 41-4 application to the CCTC, with supporting evidence noted.