

# Building Bright Futures for Children with Special Needs

## Master of Arts (M.A.) in Special Education Program

### Program Overview

The Special Education M.A. Degree program at CSUB is designed to provide candidates with the knowledge and competencies necessary to take on leadership roles in the field of Special Education. The CSUB Special Education M.A. degree program is designed to reflect the standards established by the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC).

### Program Design and Coursework Sequence

#### Phase I: Foundation and Basic Understanding

During the first program phase, Special Education MA degree candidates study how students in special education relate to the entire spectrum of students enrolled in today's classrooms.

#### Phase II: Skills Development

During the second program phase, MA candidates will study and acquire specific knowledge and skills for assessing and teaching students with special needs. Furthermore, through their coursework and built-in field experience components, candidates will study behavior and classroom management skills.

#### Phase III: Culminating Activities

In the third and final stage of the program, master's degree candidates internalize at they have learned and experienced during the first two phases. Candidates are required to complete their culminating activity by taking: (1) EDSP 6830: Thesis, (2) EDSP 6810: Project, or (3) EDSP 6820: Examination.

### CSUB Special Education Faculty & Staff

- Dr. Yeunjoo Lee *Professor of Special Education, Chair of Advanced Educational Studies Department*, (661) 654-6478
- Dr. Sarana Roberts *Assistant Professor & Director of Special Education*, (661) 654-2527
- Mrs. Diane McNett *Full-Time Lecturer & AV Coordinator*, (661) 952-5089
- Mr. Matthew Kabel *Full-Time Lecturer of Special Education*, (661) 952-5045
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- Ms. Julia Bavier *Admissions & Graduation Advisor (Bakersfield)*, (661) 654-3193
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- Ms. Megan Marshall, *Administrative Assistant (Antelope Valley)*, 661-952-5080

### Contact Information

#### Website:

[www.csub.edu/specialed](http://www.csub.edu/specialed)

#### Bakersfield Office:

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Antelope Valley Campus  
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# Building Bright Futures for Children with Special Needs

## Applying to the Special Education Program

Admission to the University does not constitute admission to the Special Education Program. A separate application is required. Application materials to the Special Education Program are available at our information sessions, credential's office, and at our website [www.csub.edu/specialed/forms](http://www.csub.edu/specialed/forms). We strongly recommend that you attend a meeting before taking the required prerequisite courses for the program. Contact our office for Information session dates.

## Admission Requirements

1. Apply for admission to CSUB for post-baccalaureate study ([www2.calstate.edu/apply](http://www2.calstate.edu/apply))
2. Attend an information session and receive application materials.
3. Submit completed application materials by program deadline: Special Education program application form  
Three recommendation forms
  - Autobiography
  - Bachelor's degree from accredited college (provide transcripts)
  - GPA 3.0 (4.0 scale)
  - Mandatory Reporter Training
  - Writing competencies: Meet one of the GEAR options [GEAR Options](#)
4. Candidate Interview

## Admission

1. Academic advising: Complete a Program Specification Plan of Study with an advisor after acceptance to the program.
2. Prior to the first day of classes, students in the Master's program should submit a certificate of clearance, a TB certificate, and proof of professional liability insurance.

## Transfer Units

For the M.A. Program, only 8.66 semester units from other institutions may be transferred toward the degree at CSUB.

## Timeline

All the requirements for a Master's degree should be completed within a seven-year period, including the filing and awarding of the degree. This means that no more than seven years may elapse between the start term of the earliest dated course and the date that the last course on the program plan is actually completed, and the application for graduation is filed. With outdated requirements, the candidate may complete a petition form for an extension of the time limit or substitution of other appropriate courses, but it is not guaranteed that the courses will be accepted.

## Prerequisite Requirements

- Bachelor's degree
- Minimum GPA 3.0 (4.0 scale)
- EDRS 4600 (4): Educational Statistics

## Core Requirements

EDSP 5610 (3): Characteristics of Students with Mild to Severe Support Needs  
EDSP 5620 (3): Collaboration and Transition in SPED  
EDSP 5630 (3): Assessment of Students with Support Needs  
EDSP 5640 (3): Classroom Management & Positive Behavior Support  
EDSP 6200 (4): Research in Special Education

## Mild/Moderate Support Needs (MMSN)

EDSP 5650 (3): Curriculum and Instruction for Students with MMSN

## Extensive Support Needs (ESN)

EDSP 5660 (3): Curriculum and Instruction for Students with ESN

## Electives (6 Units)

## Culminating Activities

EDSP 6810 (3): Master's Project Education  
EDSP 6820 (3): Master's Examination in Special Education  
EDSP 6830 (3): Master's Thesis in Special Education

## Requirements for Continuing in the Special Education Program

- GPA: Candidates must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 in all required courses attempted after entry in the program. Candidates whose GPA falls below 3.0 will either be put on probation for one term or be asked to drop from the program.
- Advancement through the Program: Candidates whose performance is judged to be inadequate in any phase will be expected to improve or repeat the problem courses before advancing to the next phase. The Special Education Program faculty will meet regularly to discuss candidates' progress and make recommendations that will best assist candidates to acquire the requisite professional skills, dispositions and maintain the integrity of the program.