

Education Specialist Program Description

Preliminary Level 1

Mild/Moderate and Moderate /Severe Disabilities
As of Spring 2009

Basic Program and Structure

The Education Specialist Credentials for Mild/Moderate (M/M) and Moderate/Severe (M/S) Disabilities are basic credentials that do not require a general education credential as a prerequisite. The Level I Education Specialist Credential in either M/M or M/S Disabilities consists of 3 units of co-requisites, 8-9 units in general teacher education, 16 units in special education, and 16 units of field experience. Candidates interested in pursuing both education specialist credentials complete both 4-unit credential-specific courses and a student teaching placement that satisfies field requirements for both credentials.

Upon completion of the requirements for the Preliminary Level I Program, candidates apply for either a Certificate of Eligibility or a Preliminary Level I Credential. (Employment as a special education teacher is required in order to apply for the Preliminary Level I Credential.) Within 2–5 years of obtaining a special education teaching position with the Level I Preliminary Education Specialist Credential, the requirements must be met for the Professional Level II Education Specialist Credential.

California and University Education Specialist Credential Requirements

**Requirements Possibly Met If a California Teaching Credential is Held (not an emergency or substitute permit):*

Candidates for the Education Specialist Credential who already hold a California teaching credential (not an emergency or substitute permit) may have already met the requirements marked by the asterisk (*) on pages 1 & 2. Please contact the Credentials Office at 707-664-2509 or 707-664-3141 for confirmation if you think you may have already met these requirements.

► **Basic Skills Requirement**

There are currently two options available for Education Specialist Level 1 candidates to meet the Basic Skills Requirement.

Option 1: CBEST exam

Option 2: CSET: Multiple Subjects exam (3 subtests) **plus the** Writing section.

Please submit ONE of the following with your application:

- Copy of your passing scores for CBEST; visit www.cbest.nesinc.com for details
- Copy of your passing scores for CSET: Multiple Subjects (3subtests) **plus** Writing Section; www.cset.nesinc.com for details

► *** Subject Matter Competency - (Submit ONE of the following):**

- CSET Exam Scores (California Subject Examinations for Teachers)
 - A copy of your current CSET: Subject Area scores must be included in your application. Note: Passage of the CSET exam(s) is required prior to full admission into the Credential program and authorization to register. CSET test dates, test registration procedures and deadlines, and test score reporting dates are available at <http://www.cset.nesinc.com>. **You may also contact the Credentials Office for this information. We advise you to take the CSET exam no later than the November test administration for Spring admission and no later than the May administration for Fall admission. Taking the exams any later than these dates may result in delays in admission and in your being authorized to register for your courses. In order to further expedite admissions, please submit a photocopy of your test scores directly to the Credentials Office.**
- Subject Matter Waiver Letter or Verification of Enrollment in Subject Matter Waiver Program
 - Submit a letter from your subject matter program advisor verifying you completed the waiver program or a memo verifying you are enrolled in a subject matter waiver program. *Note:* Completion of Subject Matter Waiver is required prior to admission into the Credential program. For more specific information contact the Credentials Office at www.credentials.office@sonoma.edu.

over...

- ▶ **BA or BS Degree** – complete prior to award of the credential
- ▶ *** Certificate of Clearance** (or copy of previous CA credential) – file with application to the credential program
- ▶ **Negative T.B. / Chest X-ray results** – file with application to the credential program
- ▶ *** Legal Seminar**– complete as part of the admission requirement
- ▶ *** Course or exam in U.S. Constitution**– complete prior to award of the credential
- ▶ *** Reading Instruction Competency Assessment (RICA)** – complete prior to award of the credential
- ▶ **Cumulative 3.0 grade point average upon completion of all credential program courses:**
 - Individual course passing grade is a “ C” or better – includes prerequisites and program coursework

Course Requirements

***Co-requisites (3 Semester Units):**

EDUC 417 (3) School and Society **OR** LIBS 312 (3) Schools in American Society

***General Teacher Education Coursework (8-9 Semester Units; choose ONE of the following two options):**

Multiple Subject Option (9 semester units):

EDMS 411 (3) Teaching Second Language Learners
 EDMS 463 (3) Teaching Reading & Language Arts in Elementary School (includes a field work component)
 EDMS 474 (3) Mathematics in the Elementary School

Single Subject – Secondary Option (8 semester units):

EDSS 442 (4) Middle/Secondary Teaching in Multicultural Settings
 EDSS 446 (4) Language & Literacy Across the Curriculum: Middle & Secondary Schools

Common Core for Education Specialists (12 semester units):

EDSP 422 (4) Collaborative Partnerships and Special Education
 EDSP 423 (4) Assessment, Curriculum, and Instructional Strategies for Students with Disabilities
 EDSP 424 (4) Classroom Ecology: Management, Discipline, and Behavioral Supports

Credential-Specific Curriculum (4 semester units):

Mild/Moderate Disabilities

EDSP 425 (4) Developing Academic Performance of Students with M/M Disabilities

Moderate/Severe Disabilities

EDSP 428 (4) Pro Seminar: Topics in the Education of Students with M/S Disabilities

Early Field Experience (4 semester units):

EDSP 464A (2) Participant Observation
 EDSP 464B (2) Participant Observation Seminar

****Student Teaching (12 semester units):**

EDSP 465 (10) Student Teaching EDSP 467 (10) Student Teaching
 EDSP 466 (2) Student Teaching Seminar EDSP 468 (2) Student Teaching Seminar

**** Taking more than 4 additional units of coursework while enrolled in student teaching practicum and seminar requires prior approval of the department.**

All candidates completing fieldwork (participant observation or student teaching) in basic teacher education programs are required to carry professional liability insurance. Sonoma State University provides this insurance at no cost to the student.

Important Notes...

Subject Matter Competence for Education Specialist Credential Candidates:

Candidates meeting subject matter competence for the Education Specialist Credential through examination must pass the COMPLETE SERIES of CSET exams in one subject area. For example, candidates can take and pass the CSET: English (4 subtests) OR CSET: Multiple Subjects (3 subtests) to meet subject matter competence for the Education Specialist Credential.

Candidates holding a California teaching credential (not an emergency or substitute credential) may have already met subject matter competency.

For questions regarding this requirement, please contact the Credentials Office at 707-664-2509 or 707-664-3141.