School of Education

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS
Admission decisions must comply with Executive Order, Office of the Chancellor.

SPECIAL EDUCATION “ADD ON” PROGRAM
FOR CREDENTIALED TEACHERS
Preliminary Mild/Moderate and Moderate/Severe Disabilities
Education Specialist Teaching Credentials

THE PROGRAM IS CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING (CCTC) AND
NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR ACCREDITATION OF TEACHER EDUCATION (NCATE) APPROVED.

Requirements are subject to state and federal changes in credential law.

Admission into programs leading to licensure and credentialing does not guarantee that students will obtain a license or credential. Licensure and credentialing requirements are set by agencies that are not controlled by or affiliated with the CSU and requirements can change at any time. For example, licensure or credentialing requirements can include evidence of the right to work in the United States (e.g., social security number or tax payer identification number) or successfully passing a criminal background check. Students are responsible for determining whether they can meet licensure or credentialing requirements. The CSU will not refund tuition, fees, or any associated costs, to students who determine subsequent to admission that they cannot meet licensure or credentialing requirements. Information concerning licensure and credentialing requirements are available from CEHHS – Student Services, CSUSM, San Marcos CA, 92096, (760) 750-4277.
# Admissions Process for Preliminary Education Specialist Program

## University and School of Education Credential Application Timeline

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<th>Semester entering program</th>
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<td>Fall entry</td>
<td>January 15th – May 26th</td>
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1. **Graduate application for Cal State University San Marcos** – submitted to the university online: [www.csumentor.edu](http://www.csumentor.edu). If this is the first time you have created an account, please write down your user name and password for future use. A $55 fee is required to submit this application. These tips on properly completing application fields will ensure success in the application process:
   - **Major/Program objective:** CREDENTIAL ONLY
   - **Degree objective:** NONE
   - **Education credential objective:** Planning to apply this term
   - **Program choices:** Special Education
   - You do not need to provide the following information on this application (SKIP THESE SECTIONS):
     - Employment Information/History
     - Academic Honors
     - Test Information
     - Academic References
   - **Statement of Purpose:** N/A

2. **School of Education Supplemental Application** - can be found at: [http://www.csusm.edu/cehhs/studentservices/admission/howtoapplycred.html](http://www.csusm.edu/cehhs/studentservices/admission/howtoapplycred.html)

   Download, print, complete and submit the application to:

   CSUSM
   CEHHS Student Services, University Hall 221
   333 S. Twin Oaks Valley Rd.
   San Marcos, CA 92096-0001

As part of this application process, you must meet the following requirements (Please note: There may be additional requirements for out-of-state and foreign-trained teachers. Please refer to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing at [www.ctc.ca.gov](http://www.ctc.ca.gov) or the School of Education, Education Services Center for more information):

a) **CSUSM Graduate application** completed and submitted, as outlined in #1 above.

b) **Verification of valid basic (Multiple or Single Subject) credential issued by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC).** You may download a copy of your credential from the CTC website at [www.ctc.ca.gov](http://www.ctc.ca.gov). You must also include verification of English Learner (EL) authorization such as CLAD, CTEL, BCLAD, or SB 2042 credential.

c) **Verification of subject matter competency** such as passing CSET- Multiple Subject scores or letter verifying subject matter waiver (waiver only valid for Single Subject credential candidates).

d) Submit with application **three letters of recommendation**, on official letterhead, from an instructor, public school teacher and/or administrator.

*Note: If you are out of state trained you may need additional requirements to clear your basic credential.*

e) A **Statement of Purpose** is required which tells about you and why you wish to pursue this credential. Your goals, ideals, experiences, special skills, community service may be included.
f) **Tuberculin Clearance** must be on file in the CEHHS Student Services before beginning the program and must be valid through completion of the program. The clearance may be obtained at a private physician’s office, the County Health Department or the Cal State University San Marcos Student Health Center. This is in addition to the immunization clearance required for University admission.

3. **Transcripts – Two sets of official, unopened transcripts are needed:** one set for each application (University and School of Education). One set should accompany your paper application to the School of Education. One set should be sent directly to the Office of Admissions from every college/university attended, even if it shows just one course taken years ago. **We cannot emphasize strongly enough how important it is to include each institution when ordering transcripts. You will not be fully admitted to the university or able to register for courses until all transcripts are submitted and reviewed. Please note: It is not necessary to submit transcripts for courses taken at CSUSM.**

4. **Interview and Writing Sample** - The interview process may include an individual interview, a group interview, and on-site submission of a writing sample from prompt. Interviews for qualified candidates are conducted by program coordinators, faculty, and, public school teachers and administrators. Candidates will be notified by mail or email to make arrangements for the interview(s) after the application deadline.

   If you have a disability and will need reasonable accommodations to take part in the interview and/or admissions process for an academic program within the College of Education, please contact Disabled Student Services at 760/750-4905 or by email at dss@csusm.edu. Specific questions regarding the application and interview process for any of the College of Education programs should be directed to Student Services Center at 760/750-4277.

5. **Grades/Policies -**

   a) All courses, except Clinical Practice (student teaching) are graded A, B, C, D, F. Credit/No Credit (CR/NC) is given for Clinical Practice experiences (student teaching). The minimum acceptable final grade for courses in the professional education sequence, including prerequisite courses is C+ (2.3), but, a B (3.0) average must be maintained.

   b) A student must have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.67 to be accepted into credential programs offered at CSU San Marcos. If you do not have the required 2.67 GPA, conditional admission will be considered on a limited basis.

**CLINICAL PRACTICE (STUDENT TEACHING) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

*Must be completed before Clinical Practice placement*

- Certificate of Clearance or valid basic credential (an emergency or substitute teaching permit does not qualify as a basic teaching credential).
- Bachelor’s Degree. Official transcript verifying Bachelor’s Degree required.
- Basic Skills examination.
- Subject Matter Competency.
- Tuberculin clearance.
- Successful progress in program.
The Preliminary Education Specialist Mild/Moderate and/or Moderate/Severe Disabilities “Add On” program is specially designed for teachers who have completed a basic (e.g. Multiple or Single Subject) credential program, have satisfied the California subject matter competence requirement, and hold or obtain the English Language Authorization before completing the course of study and clinical practice for the credential(s).

This credential program prepares teachers in advanced skills to instruct students in grades K through 12 and adults through age 22 with identified disabilities. The Preliminary Mild/Moderate Disabilities Education Specialist Instruction credential authorizes instruction of students with a primary disability of Autism Spectrum Disorder, Emotional Disturbance, Mild/Moderate Intellectual Disability, Other Health Impairment, or Specific Learning Disability. The Preliminary Moderate/Severe Disabilities Education Specialist credential authorizes instruction of students with a primary disability of Autism Spectrum Disorder, Deaf-Blindness, Emotional Disturbance, Moderate/Severe Intellectual Disability, or Multiple Disabilities. Both credentials require candidates to have or obtain the authorization to instruct English learners.

“Add On” credential applicants are strongly encouraged to apply for admission to the Master of Arts in Education program with a special education emphasis.

**CREDENTIAL COURSES**

**Requirements for Moderate/Severe Authorization (Optional):** For those who completed a Preliminary or Level I Mild/Moderate credential program at CSUSM:

- EDMX 635 4
- Curriculum and Instruction: Moderate/Severe Disabilities
- EDMX 573 6
- Clinical Practice: Moderate/Severe Disabilities

**Required Courses for Single Subject Credential Holders:**

- EDMS 521 3
  - Elementary Literacy I
  - OR
  - EDMX 521 3
    - Elementary Literacy I for Education Specialist
- EDMS 543 3
  - Elementary Mathematics Education
  - OR
  - EDMX 543 3
    - Mathematics Education in Inclusive Classrooms

**Masters Courses**

Formal admission to Master of Arts in Education program is required to enroll in all other MA coursework. 21 units in residency at CSUSM are required for the MA in Education.

- EDUC 602 3
  - Schooling in a Multicultural Society
- EDUC 622 3
  - Research Methods in Education
- EDUC 698 3
  - Master’s Thesis/Project

**Elective Units (To total a minimum of 30 units)**

You may add electives from the General Option Masters and other special courses that are offered periodically. Up to 9 units may be brought in from other universities with advisor approval.

**Preliminary Mild/Moderate Education Specialist Courses and Clinical Practice**

**Fall:**
- EDMX 631 3
  - Foundations in Law, Ethics, & Procedures of Special Education
- EDMX 633 3
  - Community Access through Supported Environments
- EDMX 632 3
  - Communication, Technology & Social Competence for Special Populations

**Spring:**
- EDMX 622 4
  - Literacy for Education Specialists
- EDMX 627 3
  - Assessment for Planning and Instruction
- EDMX 572 7
  - Education Specialist – Clinical Practice: Special Education Setting
- EDMX 575 2
  - Transition Development Plan Seminar

**Total** 25-28

**Elective Units (To total a minimum of 30 units)**

You may add electives from the General Option Masters and other special courses that are offered periodically. Up to 9 units may be brought in from other universities with advisor approval.
Education Specialist Internship Program
leading to an Preliminary Mild/Moderate
and Moderate/Severe Disability Education Specialist Credential

Internship Partnerships with School Districts

*Internship agreements are in place with many school districts in San Diego and Southwest Riverside Counties. Internships are very limited and not guaranteed and, when available, completion of a separate district application and interview process is required.*

*Please note: There may be additional requirements for out of state and foreign trained teachers. Please refer to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing web site at [www.ctc.ca.gov](http://www.ctc.ca.gov) or the School of Education Student Services Center for more information.*

**INTERNSHIP CREDENTIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

*Must be completed for Internship credential recommendation and before Clinical Practice placement.*

- Certificate of Clearance or valid basic credential. An emergency or substitute teaching permit does not qualify as a basic teaching credential.
- Bachelor's Degree. Official transcript verifying Bachelor’s Degree required.
- Basic Skills examination.
- Subject Matter Competency.
- Tuberculin clearance.
- U.S. Constitution requirement.
- Successful completion of EDUC 350, EDUC 364, EDMX 511, and EDMX 521 (or equivalent courses to satisfy the CTC Internship Pre-Service Training requirements).
- Authorization to Instruct English Learners.
- Successful progress in the Internship program. Continuous enrollment in Internship credential program course work is required to maintain a valid Internship credential. Failure to enroll in course work without prior consultation and approval from the CEHHS Student Services and program coordinator may lead to cancellation of the Internship credential.

Additional Internship Courses:

- EDMX 671
  Education Specialist – Clinical Practice for Interns (Fall) – 7 units

- EDMX 672
  Education Specialist – Clinical Practice for Interns (Spring) – 7 units

- EDEX 661
  Education Specialist – Portfolio Review and Site Visitation – 2 units
Clear Credentials

Successful completion of the program results in issuance of a Preliminary five-year Multiple Subject credential. SB 2042 standards require employment as a full-time teacher and completion of a CTC approved Induction program or a Clear Credential to qualify for the Clear credential.

All teachers holding Preliminary Education Specialist Credentials must clear the credentials within five years of credential issuance by obtaining a Clear Education Specialist Instruction Credential. An essential requirement to clear the credential is the development of a written Individualized Induction Plan (IIP) of supported induction and job related advanced professional preparation approved and signed by the clear credential candidate, an employer designee, and a CTC approved clear credential program sponsor (e.g., district, BTSA program, university, county office of education). See the CTC website (www.ctc.ca.gov) for currently approved credential sponsors. The IIP must be written to clear all general and special education preliminary credentials held, may include up to 12 semester units of university coursework, and must be developed within 60 days of employment. Preliminary Education Specialist credential holders not employed in a school setting may complete the clear credential requirements if the parties signing the IIP agree to a setting and professional development activities that allow demonstration of effective teaching to clear all preliminary credentials held.

Some programs are available to clear both the Education Specialist and Multiple Subject credentials.