Preliminary Education Specialist Program Requirements

1. If an offer of admission is made, complete the following courses:
   - EDMS 4150- Methods of Multilingual Education, 3 units; or EDUC 4400- Intro and Foundations of Multilingual Education; or EDSC 4110- Multilingual Education for Sec Schools, 3 units
   - EDSE 4330- Communication & Social Skills, 3 units
   - EDSE 4750- Applied Behavior Analysis in the Classroom, 3 units
   - EDSE 4550- Practicum with Exceptional Children, 3 units
   - EDSE 4560- Theory of Instructional Design, 3 units
   - EDSE 4110- Reading and Language Arts in General Education, 2 units
   - EDSE 4210- Reading and Language Arts in Special Education, 3 units
   - EDSE 4430- Assessment in Special Education, 3 units
   - EDSE 4410- Consultation and Collaboration, 3 units
   - EDSE 4450- Teaching Students Mild/Moderate, 3 units (if you are seeking the M/M credential) or EDSE 4440- Teaching Students Moderate/Severe, 3 units (if you are seeking the M/S Credential)

2. After completing coursework with “B” average and verification of subject matter competence, complete the following courses:
   * EDSE 4815- Student Teaching: Mild/Moderate, 3 units + 3 units = 6 units; enroll twice in a single semester (if you are seeking the M/M credential)
   * EDSE 4816- Student Teaching: Moderate/Severe, 3 units + 3 units = 6 units; enroll twice in a single semester (if you are seeking the M/S credential)

**TOTAL UNITS FOR THE EDUCATION SPECIALIST CREDENTIAL: 41 UNITS** (6 prerequisite + 35 program units)

Reading Instruction Competence Assessment (RICA)

**www.rica.nesinc.com**

RICA is an exit requirement for the Education Specialist Credential. Before candidates are recommended for the credential, verification of passing is required.

Applying to the Preliminary Education Specialist Credential Program

Application Procedures

The application packet is available online at:
http://www.csustan.edu/Credentials/applicationsforms.html. Refer to the Special Education Handbook for admission criteria during the year of application and acceptance, and any additional requirements.

Application Deadlines

Application forms and documents must be submitted as a package by the application deadline.

- **Spring 2014 Semester**
  - Priority Applications: August 22, 2013 - September 6, 2013
  - Regular Applications: September 9, 2013 - September 30, 2013
  - Priority Interviews: September 20, 2013
  - Regular Interviews: October 11, 2013

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**Mild/ Moderate Disabilities**

**Moderate/ Severe Disabilities**

**Credential Program Requirements**

**General Requirements**

1. **Application Fees**
   - a. CSU, Stanislaus Graduate Application – [www.csumentor.org ($55 fee)](http://www.csumentor.org)
   - b. Credential Program Application ($30 fee)

2. **Grade Point Average (GPA) Requirement**
   The required GPA is 2.67 in all baccalaureate and postbaccalaureate coursework or GPA of at least 2.75 in the last 60 units.

**Admission Requirements**

Applicants may apply before completing the prerequisites. However, the prerequisites must be completed before being accepted to program.

1. **Tuberculosis Clearance - Good for only 4 years.**

2. **CCTC Certificate of Clearance and Livescan**

3. **Subject Matter Competency** [www.cset.nesinc.com](http://www.cset.nesinc.com)
   - Complete one of the following:
     - Elementary level: Pass 3 sections of CSET Multiple Subject.
     - Middle and Secondary Level: Pass CSET Single Subject exam or complete a subject matter preparation program.

4. **Basic Skills Requirements**
   This requirement can be met through one of the following ways:
   - Pass 3 sections of CBEST [www.cbest.nesinc.com](http://www.cbest.nesinc.com)
   - Pass CSET Writing Skills (Elementary Level Only)
   - Pass CSU Early Assessment Program (English and Mathematics Sections) or CSU Placement Examination (English 151 and Math 50)

5. **Early Field Experience**
   All candidates must complete 45 hours of documented field experience in K-12 classrooms.

6. **English Composition**
   Complete an upper-division writing course (listed as WP in the catalog) or submit a verifiable score of 41 or higher on the writing portion of CBEST.

7. **American Government/Constitution**
   Complete PSCI 1201, American Government or an equivalent course that fulfills the U.S. Constitution requirement.

**Prerequisite Courses**

The following courses must be taken and/or in progress prior to applying to the program:
- EDSE 4310 – Introduction to Special Education Program, 3 units, with a grade of “B” or better.
- Human Development: Childhood or Adolescents: PSYC/CDEV 3240-Human Development II: Adolescence, 3 units or PSYC/CDEV 3140- Human Development I: Childhood, 3 units or NURS 1040 - Human Development over the Life Span, 3 units.
When to Apply
You may apply to the credential program upon completion or near completion of a baccalaureate degree.

Where to Submit an Application
Submit a completed application to:
  Credential Services - DBH 303
  California State University, Stanislaus
  One University Circle
  Turlock, CA 95382

Additional Information Available at:
- Credential Services - DBH 303 (209) 667-3534
- Program Coordinator - Dr. Granger Dinwiddie, DBH 328
gdinwidd@csustan.edu or dinwidd@aol.com (209) 667-3681

Frequently Asked Questions about the Preliminary Education Specialist Credential Program

What is the credential needed to be a special education teacher?
A teaching credential is a state license to teach in a public school setting. California law requires all teachers in the California public school system to hold a valid teaching credential. Credentials are most often obtained by completing a state-approved credential program at an accredited college or university. The three basic teaching credentials used in public schools are the Multiple Subject, Single Subject and Education Specialist credentials. To be a special education teacher an Education Specialist credential is required.

What special education credentials are offered at CSU, Stanislaus?
CSU, Stanislaus offers the Preliminary Education Specialist Credentials: Mild/Moderate Disabilities and Moderate Severe Disabilities. The specialty area Mild/Moderate Disabilities (M/M) includes specific learning disabilities; mild to moderate mental retardation; other health impairment; serious emotional disturbance; and authorizes service in grades K–12 and in classes organized primarily for adults through age 22. An Autism Spectrum Disorders Authorization can be added to a Mild/Moderate Disabilities credential. Contact program coordinator for requirements. The specialty area Moderate/Severe Disabilities (M/S) includes autism; deaf-blindness; moderate to severe mental retardation; multiple disabilities; serious emotional disturbance; and authorizes service in grades K–12 and in classes organized primarily for adults through age 22.

How long is the program?
With the prerequisites included, the Special Education program totals 41 units. The average amount of time students take to complete the program is 2 years. However, the length of the program is ultimately determined by how you set your schedule, e.g., full-time or part-time. Keep in mind that some of the courses in the program are offered once a year, not every semester.

If I am a student in the Liberal Studies concentration in Exceptional Children and Youth, am I also a candidate in the Special Education Credential Program?
No. Courses in the concentration are required to earn your baccalaureate degree. Declaration of the concentration is not equivalent to admission to the Education Specialist Credential Program. There are 21 units in the concentration; there are 41 units in the credential program.

Must I complete all prerequisite requirements before I apply for admission to the program?
No. You can apply for admission in the same semester you enroll in the prerequisite course: (a) EDSE 4310 and (b) CDEV 3140 or CDEV 3240. However, you must complete the prerequisite courses with grades “B” or better before full admission is offered.

Do I need a Multiple Subject or Single Subject Credential before I get my special education credential?
No. The Preliminary Education Specialist credential is a basic credential. A single Subject or Multiple Subject Credential is not a prerequisite for the Preliminary Education Specialist Credential.

Can I teach in at the elementary or secondary level with the Preliminary Education Specialist credential?
Yes. The Education Specialist Credential is a K-12 Credential. You are authorized to teach students in the areas authorized on your credential.

Am I guaranteed a student teaching placement in the area I reside?
No. While all efforts will be made to place you as close as possible to your residence, the primary criterion in the determination of placement is the quality of experiences the placement will provide.

Can I pursue the Education Specialist Credential and the Multiple Subject or Single Subject Credential concurrently?
Yes, check with the Special Education Coordinator if you wish to pursue the Concurrent Education Specialist Credential and a Multiple or Single Subject Credential.

Do You Offer Assistance in Passing the CBEST and CSET Exams?
Yes, contact Tara Ribeiro in the Teacher Recruitment and Retention Office (DBH 322 - 667-3589) for information about upcoming workshops teacheroutreach@csustan.edu.