



Early Childhood Special Education

Madera County Superintendent of Schools

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Early Childhood Special Education Added Authorization (ECSEAA) is 100% online. No face-to-face classes or meetings are required. The program is comprised of four courses, which span the length of the school year. Each course contains weekly readings, discussion questions, assignments and on-line synchronous meetings. In addition to the weekly activities, there are projects which are conducted in the field.

PROGRAM COMPONENT

Total hours required for the fieldwork is 60 hours.

- Courses One and Two require 15 hours of fieldwork each.
- Course Three is taken concurrently with Course Four requiring 30 hours of field experience project in Early Childhood Special Education.

Total hours required for classroom contact is 68 hours. – Via discussion questions and assignments.

- Courses One and Two require 32 hours of classroom contact.
- Course Three is taken concurrently with Course Four requiring 36 hours of classroom contact.

NOTE: *Course Four is Supervised Field Experience.*

PROGRAM CONTENT

Course One – Characteristics of Infants, Toddlers and Preschoolers with IFSPs and IEPs

- Offers a broad overview of typical and atypical development in infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.
- The role of the family and the implementation of interventions in natural environments are a focus to develop skills required to provide services to infants and toddlers.
- Candidates will be exposed to interventions that are appropriate to a child's chronological age developmental differences, and disability-specific needs.
- Candidates develop knowledge of evidence-based practices associated with young children birth to pre-K.

Course Two – Role of the Family in Early Childhood Special Education

- Provide candidates with skills to effectively interact with families with young children with special needs.
- Candidates explore family systems within the context of ethnicity, culture, life experiences, and language diversity.
- Candidates develop skills in supporting families through the IFSP/IEP process.
- The course covers strategies to assist families to access desired services, programs, and activities in their school and community.

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PROGRAM DESCRIPTION CONTINUED

PROGRAM CONTENT

Course Three – Assessment and Intervention/Instruction Strategies Birth through Pre-Kindergarten

- Offers an in-depth review of the required knowledge and skills needed in order for Candidates to determine, develop and implement appropriate assessment and instructional interventions.
- Candidates will be exposed to the impact of cultural and linguistic differences and family concerns and priorities affecting choices in assessment and instructional planning.
- The course reviews the IDEA requirements for assessment and evaluation as required by IDEA Part B and C.

Course Four – Experience in Early Childhood Special Education

- Offered concurrently with Course Three – Assessment and Instruction for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers, and covers assessment with IFSPs and IEPs.
- The course offers Candidates supervised field experience in order to complete two full case studies. One case study will be focused on infants/toddlers and the other case study will be focused on preschoolers.
- Candidates participate as part of a multidisciplinary team to assess and develop an appropriate IFSP or IEP.
- Candidates are required to develop and implement strategies to meet IFSP or IEP goals and objectives using individual and group interventions.
- Candidates develop skills in working with paraprofessionals to implement a student's educational program.
- Candidates implement strategies to monitor student progress based on the student's IFSP and IEP goals.

For questions call:

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