



California State University, Long Beach  
College of Education, Graduate Studies  
[ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu](mailto:ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu)

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## INFORMATION AND APPLICATION PACKET

### MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION OPTION IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Website:

[www.csulb.edu/college-of-education/early-childhood-education](http://www.csulb.edu/college-of-education/early-childhood-education)

Prospective students with inquiries about the program may contact the Program Coordinator, Dr. Ruth Piker:

[Ruth.Piker@csulb.edu](mailto:Ruth.Piker@csulb.edu)

Contact the College of Education Graduate Studies Office with inquiries about the applications:

[ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu](mailto:ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu)

Video conferencing is available, email [ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu](mailto:ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu)  
to set up an appointment Monday – Friday 9AM-5PM

#### **APPLICATION DEADLINES**

APPLICANT	FALL 2020
DOMESTIC	6/01/2020
INTERNATIONAL	4/01/2020

**BOTH THE UNIVERSITY AND PROGRAM APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE DEADLINE.**

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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. Is the GRE required?

A. The GRE is not required for this program. For a list of eligibility requirements, please see page 4. For a list of items required to be submitted with the program application, please see checklist on page 8.

Q. Does this program have prerequisite courses?

A. Please see the [CSULB Catalog](#) for information about prerequisites. Prerequisite courses do not need to be completed prior to applying nor prior to being admitted. Prerequisite course completion does not impact an applicant's eligibility for admission to the program. Prerequisite courses may be completed the summer or winter session prior to admission or during the first year in the program at the discretion of the advisor.

Q. Can the courses in the program be used for the 24 units required for teaching Transitional Kindergarten (TK)?

A. Yes, any of the program specific courses may be utilized toward the 24 units for TK.

Q. Does this program combine a Master's Degree with a preliminary teaching credential?

A. CSULB does not offer a combined teaching credential and master's degree. If you are interested in earning the credential to teach, please visit [www.csulb.edu/tpac](http://www.csulb.edu/tpac) for teaching credential program options.

Q. Does coursework for the program count toward a teacher induction program (i.e.- BTSA)?

A. No, the program coursework does not count toward an induction program. Please consult with your school district for information about an induction program.

Q. How long does the program take to complete?

A. The program is designed to be completed in 2 years. Upon admission, the program coordinator will provide each newly admitted student their program plan.

Q. How much will the program cost?

A. Most students enroll in 2 to 3 courses (6 - 9 units) each Fall and Spring semester, as well as some classes in summer or winter session. Please refer to the [Tuition and Fees website](#) for a complete breakdown for "Graduate" fees for the fall and spring terms. Please note that taking classes in the summer or winter sessions reduces the number of units you will need to take in during the Fall and Spring semesters. Also please note that the comprehensive exam course (EDEC 695) is only offered in the summer. Please refer to the [College of Professional and International Education website](#) for a breakdown of summer fees.

Q. Where do I send transcripts?

A. Transcripts are sent to Enrollment Services. Please see page 5 of this packet for additional information. Do not send your transcripts to the College of Education Graduate Studies Office.

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

The Master of Arts Degree in Education, option in Early Childhood Education (ECE) is a two-year, 30-33 unit program that fosters the development of diverse educators who apply research-based knowledge in designing developmentally and culturally appropriate curriculum and assessment strategies for children ages birth through 8. Candidates develop family-school-community partnership strategies, evaluate the quality of early childhood programs in their communities, and critically evaluate policies that impact young children and their families locally and globally. The ECE program develops teacher leaders and advocates of young children, families, and the field. Students gain a deeper understanding of global perspectives in early childhood education.

The Program adopts a cohort model that offers hybrid courses with Saturday and evening classes to accommodate working professionals. The program provides mentoring by faculty members and program graduates, and the college and university provide a wide-array of support services. General academic scholarships and ECE program specific scholarships are available for eligible candidates. The ECE degree meets the California requirements of Transitional Kindergarten (TK) teachers needing to complete 24 early childhood education units.

The program recruits candidates with classroom teaching experiences and helps them connect their classroom practices with theories, research, policies, and current discourse and debates. In addition to teaching in infant, toddler, preschool, transitional kindergarten, and elementary school classrooms, our graduates obtain a host of leadership positions such as community college instructors and tenure track faculty members in private and public universities in the US and internationally; ECE curriculum specialists; ECE program directors; ECE consultants; mentor teachers; research/development specialists; and leadership positions in national organizations. Our graduates also open their own ECE programs locally and in international contexts and pursue doctoral programs in various universities in the US and universities in other countries.

### **PROGRAM MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the Master of Arts Degree in Education, option in Early Childhood Education program is to recruit and educate a diverse student population with the professional competencies necessary for shouldering leadership roles in teaching, management, research, and policy advocacy in organizations serving children, families, and early childhood professionals.

### **PROGRAM GOALS**

1. Graduates demonstrate in-depth knowledge and understanding of young children's development.
2. Graduates critically reflect upon how young children's learning and development are constructed within the context of social and cultural interactions, educational policies, and practices of particular historical times.
3. Graduates apply their theoretical understanding to design anti-bias, culturally appropriate, and inclusive curriculum and assessment measures for young children.
4. Graduates design and implement strategies to reach out to parents including culturally and linguistically diverse parents.

5. Graduates design plans for current and on-going leadership activities in the community including supervising and administering an ECE program and advocacy activities for children and families.
6. Graduates apply inquiry skills and knowledge of research methods and understand their critical role as consumers of research-based knowledge and practices.
7. Graduates examine controversies and trends related to the field of early childhood education and justify their own stand on the issues.
8. Graduates analyze children's issues and early childhood education across the world and the role of transnational organizations such as UNICEF that strive to protect children's rights.
9. Graduates utilize technology as a tool to enhance learning and communication.
10. Graduates engage in life-long learning opportunities to enhance their professional and intellectual growth.

#### **AREAS OF TRAINING**

Students will be able to:

1. Analyze in-depth theoretical perspectives that apply to young children and their families
2. Demonstrate competency in building family and community relationships
3. Apply educational theories of teaching and learning to early childhood classrooms
4. Analyze personal and professional philosophies and practices within culturally diverse early learning contexts
5. Synthesize understanding of leadership roles that benefit children and families
6. Evaluate current issues, debates, trends, and research in the field of early childhood education
7. Evaluate children's issues and early childhood education around the world

### **PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

Admitted students should consult with their advisor regarding appropriate course selection. It is important that candidates take courses in the advised sequence. Candidates will therefore need to be available to take courses at the day, time, and semester they are offered. Core courses for this program are typically offered weeknights beginning at 4PM or at 7PM, or on Saturdays, and are subject to changes to accommodate university, college, or program needs.

#### **PROGRAM PREREQUISITES**

- Prerequisite courses do not need to be completed prior to applying nor prior to being admitted. Prerequisite course completion does not impact an applicant's eligibility for admission to the program.
- Prerequisite courses may be completed the summer session prior to admission or during the first year in the program at the discretion of the advisor.
- Please see the [CSULB Catalog](#) for additional detailed information about prerequisites.

#### **PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

- The program consists of a minimum of 30 units of upper division and graduate courses.
- A program planner will be provided to each student upon admission.
- The program is designed to be completed in 2 years.
- Each Fall and Spring semester, students typically enroll in 2 or 3 courses (6 – 9 units). Other required courses are typically taken in summer or winter sessions.
- Please see the [CSULB Catalog](#) for additional detailed information about course requirements.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

### APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

The following are required for admission to the program:

- Baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university.
- Minimum 3.00 overall grade point average in last degree (not credential or certificate) earned from an accredited institution of higher education. Applicants whose overall GPA is less than 3.00 but meet the University minimum GPA requirement (2.50 for a completed baccalaureate degree or 2.70 for a baccalaureate degree in progress) and who present compelling evidence of academic and professional potential either through recent academic performance and/or experiential background, may be considered for admission at the discretion of the program admission committee.
- International applicants have additional university application requirements including meeting the English language proficiency requirement. Please visit The Center for International Education (CIE) website at [www.cpie.csulb.edu/international/](http://www.cpie.csulb.edu/international/) for more information.

### APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Graduate applicants must apply to the university AND to a specific graduate program simultaneously by the deadline listed on the first page of this packet. Admissions decisions are made at the program level by the faculty. It is essential to follow the guidelines for applying to both the university and program. Failure to do so, and to do so in a timely manner, may result in not being considered for program and/or university admission. If you have questions, please contact the College of Education Graduate Studies Office at [ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu](mailto:ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu). Video conferencing is also available Monday – Friday 9AM-5PM, please email us to set up an appointment.

Admission cannot be deferred. Admitted students who do not attend the term they are admitted will need to re-apply to both the university and the program for a future term.

#### UNIVERSITY APPLICATION PROCEDURES

You must submit a Graduate/Post-Baccalaureate Admissions Application online at [Cal State Apply](https://calstateapply.com) accompanied by the \$70 nonrefundable application fee by the program application deadline.

The Graduate Studies Office has created a [tutorial](#) with tips for submitting the university application on Cal State Apply. For technical assistance with the university application, please contact the Cal State Apply Help Desk: (857) 304-2087 or [CalStateApply@liaisoncas.com](mailto:CalStateApply@liaisoncas.com)

Once the university application has been submitted, applicants can track their university application in the Applicant Self Service portal, found at: [www.csulb.edu/admissions/applicant-self-service](http://www.csulb.edu/admissions/applicant-self-service).

#### TRANSCRIPTS

You must submit 1 set of official transcripts for ALL colleges and universities attended to Enrollment Services. This includes all community college(s) attended, bachelor's degree(s) coursework, and all post-baccalaureate or extension coursework. Note that if you received your bachelor's degree from CSULB and have not attended any other university or college since, you will most likely not need to provide transcripts. You will be notified by Enrollment Services if a transcript is needed.

Submit official transcripts to Enrollment Services either (1) electronically or (2) mail.

(1) Official transcripts may be submitted electronically directly from a U.S. college or university to [ES-IDPTrans@csulb.edu](mailto:ES-IDPTrans@csulb.edu).

(2) Official transcripts may be delivered in a sealed envelope to the address below:

Enrollment Services/Admissions  
California State University, Long Beach  
1250 Bellflower Blvd.  
Long Beach, CA 90840

You are not required to submit transcripts to the College of Education Graduate Studies Office. It is critical that you submit your university application and the transcripts prior to the program application deadline. This will allow the College of Education faculty and staff access to your transcripts as part of the review of your program application.

#### **PROGRAM APPLICATION PROCEDURES**

The program application may be found on pages 8-13 in this packet. All program application materials must be received by the application deadline; please see the first page of this packet for the deadline.

**Submit program application materials to the Graduate Studies Office electronically via email to:**

[ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu](mailto:ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu).

Program application materials can be found on pages 8-13 of this packet. Please submit via email to

[ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu](mailto:ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu)

The College of Education Graduate Studies Office will send you an email once we have processed your application. Please note that this may take several days.

#### **INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS**

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We encourage international applicants to consider our graduate degree. International applicants planning to attend on a J1 or F1 VISA have additional requirements for admission, and can find admission information at the [Center for International Education website](#). Please note that some programs have earlier deadlines for international (F1 or J1 VISA) applicants. Please verify all deadline dates in the application packet on the [Program Deadlines and Application Packets page](#).

#### **APPLICATION PROCESS – TWO STEPS**

##### **1. STEP ONE: Apply to the university**

- a. Complete the university application through Cal State Apply [www.calstate.edu/apply](http://www.calstate.edu/apply)
- b. See this checklist from the Center for International Education for all items required [www.cpie.csulb.edu/International/about.aspx?PID=6](http://www.cpie.csulb.edu/International/about.aspx?PID=6)

##### **2. STEP TWO: Apply to the program (see above)**

The program application may be found on pages 8-13 in this packet. All program application materials must be received by the application deadline; please see the first page of this packet for the deadline.

**Submit program application materials to the Graduate Studies Office electronically via email to:**

[ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu](mailto:ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu).

Program application materials can be found on pages 8-13 of this packet. Please submit via email to

[ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu](mailto:ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu)

The College of Education Graduate Studies Office will send you an email once we have processed your application. Please note that this may take several days.

## ADMISSION PROCESS

### PHASE 1: PROGRAM APPLICATION REVIEW

Submit the university application (via CalState Apply) and all of the items listed on the program application (see pages 8 & 9 of this packet). You will be notified by email regarding the status of your application. The program coordinator may contact you with questions about your application.

### PHASE 2: INTERVIEW

Candidates who successfully complete Phase 1 of the application process will be invited for a 60-minute group interview with the Admissions Committee. The interview will take place on campus on Monday, June 22, 2020.

### PHASE 3: ADMISSION AND NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

Candidates offered admission will be invited to a mandatory orientation meeting. During orientation, each student will receive a program planner, and each student will be advised as to the appropriate sequence of classes. It is important that students follow the advised sequence of classes as course offerings are limited in the Master's program. Many required courses are offered only one semester each year.



## APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

Master of Arts in Education  
Option in Early Childhood Education  
California State University, Long Beach

The information on pages 8-9 of this packet may be typed or hand-written.

**SEMESTER:**

**YEAR:**

### PROGRAM APPLICATION CHECKLIST:

You must provide all of the items listed below. Please do not submit pages 1-7 of this packet.

- ☐ Program Application for Admission form (pages 8-9 of this packet)
- ☐ Résumé
- ☐ Personal essay (page 10 of this packet)
- ☐ Two completed recommendation forms and narrative letters (pages 11 & 12 of this packet)
- ☐ Verification of Teaching Experience (page 13 of this packet)

### PERSONAL INFORMATION

First Name:

Last Name:

MI:

Other Names, if applicable (for example, maiden name):

Preferred Phone:

Alternate Phone:

Email Address:

Languages Spoken Other Than English (optional):

### ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

#### ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

College/University

Program/Major

Dates Attended

GPA

Degree Earned





## ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE CONTINUED

### CREDENTIALS HELD, IF ANY

Credential	Issuing Agency	Date granted	Expiration date

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### EMPLOYMENT

Employer	Position	Location	Full/Part Time	Dates

### VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Agency / Organization	Nature of Experience	Location	Hours per week	Dates

Applicants will receive an email notification once their application has been processed.

My signature below certifies that I have read the program information and I am familiar with the program's goals, mission, requirements, and procedures as posted.

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## PERSONAL STATEMENT

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Master of Arts in Education,  
Option in Early Childhood Education  
California State University, Long Beach

Submit a three page, double-spaced, typewritten personal statement. Each question must be answered sequentially. The quality of the applicant's essay is taken into consideration while making admission decisions. The personal statement should address the following four questions:

1. Describe your background and experiences that lead you to the field of early childhood education. How do these continue to guide your ongoing professional growth in the field?
2. What are your personal and professional goals in pursuing a Master's degree in Early Childhood Education?
3. In what ways do you plan to contribute to the profession of early childhood education?
4. How will the Master's program in Early Childhood Education at California State University, Long Beach help you attain your personal and professional goals?



## RECOMMENDATION FORM

Master of Arts in Education  
Option in Early Childhood Education  
California State University, Long Beach

Two recommendations are required and are due by the application deadline (see page 1 of this packet for the deadline). Please provide this form to each recommender and ask the recommender to email the form and letter electronically to the College of Education Graduate Studies Office at [ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu](mailto:ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu).

### APPLICANT

Please indicate the following and sign below: I do ☐ (OR) I do not ☐ waive my right to access this confidential letter of recommendation and similar evaluative statements received in connection with my application.

*Printed Name:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Applicant's Signature:* \_\_\_\_\_ *Date:* \_\_\_\_\_

### RECOMMENDER

Please complete the information requested below in regards to the applicant who is seeking admission to the program. After completing this two-page recommendation form and supporting letter, please email the form and letter electronically to the College of Education Graduate Studies Office at [ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu](mailto:ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu).

Recommender Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

How long and in what capacity have you known this applicant?

## ASSESSMENT OF APPLICANT

Please indicate your evaluation of the applicant by placing a check mark where appropriate:

	Below Average	Average	Above Average	Outstanding	Cannot Comment
Academic Writing Ability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Intellectual Capacity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to Work/Interact with Diverse Groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leadership Abilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Potential for Graduate Work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please indicate your overall recommendation for the applicant's admission to the program at California State University, Long Beach with a check mark:

- ☐ Strongly recommend
- ☐ Recommend
- ☐ Recommend with reservations
- ☐ Do not recommend

## LETTER

**PLEASE ATTACH A LETTER MAKING SPECIFIC COMMENTS ABOUT THIS APPLICANT.** In the letter of recommendation, please provide information relevant to the applicant's suitability for graduate study in Early Childhood Education. Please cover topics such as the applicant's academic abilities and intellectual capacity, personal qualities, motivation, maturity, ability to interact and work effectively with diverse groups (children, families, professionals, to name but a few), leadership abilities, and obstacles overcome. It is not necessary to address each of the topics noted above, especially if you do not have a basis for commenting on the applicant's abilities in a certain area. Please include any additional topics that you believe are relevant to the applicant's preparation and suitability for graduate study.

When you have completed this form and letter of recommendation, please email the form and letter electronically to the College of Education Graduate Studies Office at [ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu](mailto:ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu) by the application deadline (June 1, 2020).

Recommender Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

We thank you for taking the time to complete this Recommendation Form and Letter.



## VERIFICATION OF TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Master of Arts in Education  
Option in Early Childhood Education  
California State University, Long Beach

The verification of Teaching Experience form is due by the application deadline (see page 1 of this packet for the deadline). Please instruct your supervisor to fill out this form or provide a narrative letter with the information requested below. Please instruct the supervisor to email the form or letter electronically to the College of Education Graduate Studies Office at [ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu](mailto:ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu).

### APPLICANT INFORMATION

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### DURATION OF TEACHING EXPERIENCE

The above applicant has been a successful teacher of young children under my supervision for

\_\_\_\_\_ years [number] from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ [specific dates].

### SPECIFIC AGE OR GRADE LEVEL OF STUDENTS

The applicant has worked with the following early education levels:

Preschool	Transitional Kindergarten or Kindergarten	Primary Grades
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### MULTICULTURAL SETTING

This teaching experience did ☐ (or) did not ☐ occur in a multicultural setting.

Comments:

Place School Stamp Here (If Possible)

Signature of Authorized Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_