



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

# GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN APPLIED DISABILITY STUDIES

Website: [www.csulb.edu/college-of-education/graduate-certificate-applied-disability-studies](http://www.csulb.edu/college-of-education/graduate-certificate-applied-disability-studies)

Contact Dr. Kelli Sanderson with inquiries about the program:  
[Kelli.Sanderson@csulb.edu](mailto:Kelli.Sanderson@csulb.edu)

Contact the College of Education Graduate Studies Office with inquiries about the application: [ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu](mailto:ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu) or 562/985-8476

Video conferencing is also available, email [ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu](mailto:ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu)  
to set up an appointment Monday – Friday 9:00am – 5:00pm

### **APPLICATION DEADLINES**

**APPLICATIONS ARE ACCEPTED ON A ROLLING BASIS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.**

**PRIORITY DEADLINE IS NOVEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> FOR STUDENTS WHO  
WANT TO ENROLL IN EDSP 570 THE FOLLOWING SPRING SEMESTER**

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

The interdisciplinary Graduate Certificate in Applied Disability Studies is designed to prepare graduate students from a variety of disciplines to further their understanding of the experience of disability across the lifespan. Students will become familiar with research, advocacy, interventions, and policy that facilitate successful life outcomes for persons with disabilities.

The focus is placed on the application of the field of disability studies to enhance the preparation of graduate students to work in their chosen professional disciplines (e.g., education, healthcare, social work, counseling, gerontology, engineering, web design, psychology, technology, etc.). Through coursework and fieldwork from across Departments and Colleges in the University, students will learn to adopt a person-centered approach in their work with persons with disabilities. The certificate program consists of 12 units. Some of the 12 units required for the certificate may be met through coursework and fieldwork that is required as part of a student's graduate degree program.

### COLLEGE OF EDUCATION MISSION STATEMENT

The College of Education at CSULB is a learning and teaching community that prepares professional educators and practitioners who promote equity and excellence in diverse urban settings through effective pedagogy, evidence-based practices, collaboration, leadership, innovation, scholarship, and advocacy.

### PROGRAM GOALS

The Graduate Certificate Program in Applied Disability Studies at CSULB has the following goals. The program will:

1. Introduce the candidate to concepts, approaches, strategies, and experience of disability across the lifespan
2. Promote a person-centered approach to facilitating life outcomes for individuals with disabilities
3. Familiarize the candidate with legal, ethical, civil rights, self-determination, technology, and advocacy issues associated with disability

## APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis throughout the year. If you have questions, please contact the College of Education Graduate Studies Office at [ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu](mailto:ced-gradstudies@csulb.edu) or 562/985-8476. Video conferencing is also available Monday – Friday 9:00am – 5:00pm, please email us to set up an appointment.

### APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

Admission to the Graduate Certificate in Applied Disability Studies is only available to students currently enrolled in a Master's Degree program at CSULB.

## **PROGRAM APPLICATION PROCEDURES**

The program application may be found on page 5 in this packet.

**Submit program application materials to the Graduate Studies Office electronically 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 FOR ALL APPLICANTS**

### PHASE 1: APPLICATION REVIEW

You must submit all of the items listed on the program application (see pages 5 & 6 of this packet). The Admissions Committee will review the application and you will be notified by email regarding the status of your application. This may take two to four weeks from the date of submission. You will either be admitted to the program or denied admission to the program.

### PHASE 2: PROGRAM OF STUDY

Candidates who successfully complete Phase 1 of the application process including having completed all paperwork, will be contacted by the Graduate Studies Office to make an appointment with the Program Coordinator to create a Program of Study. Students will be advised as to the appropriate sequence of classes. It is important that students attend carefully to the advised sequence of classes as course offerings are limited to those in the certificate program.

## **ADVISING INFORMATION**

Prospective students may contact the Program Coordinator, Dr. Kelli Sanderson at [Kelli.Sanderson@csulb.edu](mailto:Kelli.Sanderson@csulb.edu). Information about the program may also be found on the program website: [www.csulb.edu/college-of-education/graduate-certificate-applied-disability-studies](http://www.csulb.edu/college-of-education/graduate-certificate-applied-disability-studies)

## **PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

Admitted students will complete a Program of Study with the program coordinator regarding appropriate course selection. It is important that candidates take courses in the advised sequence. Some courses may only be offered during one semester each year. Candidates will therefore need to be available to take courses at the day, time, and semester they are offered.

#### FOUNDATION COURSES (6 UNITS)

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- EDSP 570 Community Inclusion: Introduction to Individuals with Disabilities (3 units) \*Course offered in the Spring term only
- Select one of the following two courses:
  - EDSP 525- Advocacy and the Educational Context of Disability (3 units) \*Course offered in the Spring term only
  - REC/GERN 469/569 - Disability, Culture and Society: Issues and Intervention (3 units) Fieldwork (3 units)
- Complete 3 units of clinical field experience/internship. This fieldwork will typically be a required component of the graduate degree program that you are currently pursuing. You will sign a contract ensuring that you will complete 90 hours of fieldwork with individuals with disabilities during your graduate fieldwork.

#### ELECTIVES (3 UNITS)

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- Choose 3 units of electives in consultation with the Program Coordinator for the Graduate Certificate Program for Applied Disability Studies. Please visit: [www.csulb.edu/graduate-certificate-applied-disability-studies/program-courses](http://www.csulb.edu/graduate-certificate-applied-disability-studies/program-courses) for a list of approved electives. Please note that some elective courses may require prerequisites and/or may require instructor consent. This list is subject to change.



# APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

Graduate Certificate in Applied Disability Studies  
California State University, Long Beach

The information on this page may be typed or hand-written.

**SEMESTER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**YEAR:** \_\_\_\_\_

## PROGRAM APPLICATION CHECKLIST:

You must provide all of the items listed below to the Graduate Studies Office (EED, Room 7).

- Application for Admission (this page)
- Résumé
- Personal Statement (guidelines on page 6 of this packet)
- Current unofficial CSULB transcript

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

CSULB Student ID: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Preferred Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

## ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

### ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Name of CSULB Master's Degree Program: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected Semester and Year of Completion: \_\_\_\_\_

### ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

Previous Degree(s)/Certificates Earned

Institution

Date Issued

Previous Degree(s)/Certificates Earned	Institution	Date Issued

Applicants will receive an email 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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Graduate Certificate in Applied Disability Studies  
California State University, Long Beach

Please respond to the prompt below in no more than 2 pages typewritten, double-spaced with 12-point font. This is a presentation of you as a prospective professional, thus a clear and comprehensive written sample is essential.

Why are you interested in pursuing the Graduate Certificate in Applied Disability Studies? Please share any experiences you have had with persons with disabilities.