



SACRAMENTO
STATE

[VIDEO LINK](#)

College of Education

WELCOME to Teaching Credentials!

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Redefine the Possible™

Today's Info Session

- ❖ Financial Assistance for the Credential Program
- ❖ Subject Matter Competency (not required for ECSE)
- ❖ General Q&A

Scholarships and Grants

Complete your FAFSA or CADAA (Dream Act Application) if you haven't already!!!

- ❖ Cal Grant /Pell Grant = \$6000 + \$7395
- ❖ TEACH Grant (math, science, world language, = up to \$4000
PE, English, Social Studies, MS, SPED, bilingual)
- ❖ Golden State Teacher Grant (**IF funded this year**) = up to \$10,000
- ❖ Federal Loan Forgiveness Programs = up to \$17,500
- ❖ Residency Grants = up to \$40,000
- ❖ COE Scholarships (deadline passed) \$500-\$1000

Cal Grant & Pell Grant Funding

- ❖ If received Pell funds, you may be eligible for one additional year while in the credential program.
 - ❖ Pell Determined by Fin Aid from your FAFSA
- ❖ If received a Cal Grant as an undergrad, may receive up to one additional year while in the credential program.
 - ❖ Apply as soon as possible, directly with the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) for the Cal Grant
 - ❖ For info & application, Google “CSAC Cal Grant teacher”

Scholarships and Grants

- ❖ CoE scholarships, up to \$100,000 in scholarships, application opens 10/1/25 and closes 3/2/26
- ❖ Other external educator scholarships:
<https://www.alleducationschools.com/financial-aid/teaching-scholarships/>

TEACH Grant

- Up to \$4,000 per year; if you meet requirements your name is **automatically** sent to Financial Aid.
- Must have overall GPA 3.25 or above
- Must teach in a “high needs” area:
 - Special Education
 - Single Subject – math, science, world language, PE, social science, English
 - Multiple Subject
 - Bilingual Education/English Language Acquisition

TEACH Grant

A TEACH Grant requires a teaching service obligation!

If you don't complete the service obligation, the Grant converts to a loan that you must repay, with interest.

❖ Service Obligation = teach for 4 years within 8 years after finishing the credential, in your high-needs area, in a low-income school.

TEACH Grant Process at Sac State

- If you meet requirements, your name will **AUTOMATICALLY** be sent to FA in July
- Check your Student Center “to do” list;
 - TEACH Grant Counseling
 - TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve (ATS)
- After you complete these two steps, FA enrolls you in TEACH Grant Program, which takes another 2 weeks
- Prior to 4th week of the semester, FA disburses TEACH Grant Funds

Golden State Teacher Grant

- **Depends on state budget**, don't know yet if it will run this year, **Cred Program will notify you if it is funded!**
- Up to \$10,000 depending on FA eligibility
- Must commit to work at a “priority school” in CA for 4 years within 8 years of completion (scroll down at link to see list)
- Must complete the FAFSA or Dream Act Application

Federal Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program

US Department of Education

Teach for 5+ years, you can apply for loan forgiveness

Four Loan Forgiveness Programs



Changing Financial Circumstances...

- ❖ **LOSS OF INCOME:** Your FA is based on your FAFSA/ PRIOR salary; if you will work less during the credential program, you can submit an APPEAL for Loss of Income by using the [Loss of Income Appeal form](#) (starting in July)
- ❖ **BUDGET INCREASE:** You can qualify for additional student loan amounts for specific reasons using a [Budget Increase Appeal form](#) (form available this September)

Changing Financial Circumstances...

Budget Increase Details

- ❖ Safety-related car repair expenses up to \$2,000 for the vehicle used for transportation to and from school
- ❖ Health insurance premiums and/or medical, dental, or vision expenses up to \$4,000 which are not covered by insurance.
- ❖ Maximum of \$1,500 for one-time purchase of a computer
- ❖ Education related expenses for your program of study
- ❖ Child-care expenses up to \$4,000 for your children under the age of 12

Consider Substitute Teaching

- ❖ Apply in school districts where you want to sub
- ❖ There are guidelines to subbing during credential program
- ❖ What to do right now:
 - ❖ Create an account on edjoin.org and upload all required documents
 - ❖ Obtain 3 letters of recommendation, if you don't already have them
 - ❖ District offices will help you get the substitute permit; some will offer it as part of your student teaching process

State and Federal Financial Resources

You may qualify for public resources such as:

- CalFresh and WIC
- Medi-Cal
- Utility discounts (see the CARE/FERA Program and LIHEAP)
- Childcare and Family Care
- Public transportation discount

Check with the Sac State [CARES Office](#) for assistance with applications & information.

Subject Matter Competency

How you show the state of California (CTC) that you have sufficient knowledge & understanding of your SUBJECT Matter!

Subject Matter Competency

WHY must I meet the SMC requirement?

State law – **prior to** student teaching in your final semester. If you don't fully meet SMC by the month before your student teaching semester, you will need to delay finishing your credential.

HOW to meet the SMC requirement:

1. Pass the CSET exam in your subject area (e.g. Multiple Subjects, math, social science, etc.)
2. Have a major completed in your subject area (e.g. Liberal Studies for MS, math, English, art, social science, NOT HISTORY!)
3. Complete specific courses in your subject area
4. COMBINE - CSET (specific subtests) with specific coursework

Subject Matter Competency

If you have not met SMC yet, you should have your coursework evaluated by taking this survey: https://surveys.csus.edu/jfe/form/SV_0AnU9RoPnZz1aFU

OR you can use this shorter link: <https://shorturl.at/91jHN>

After an advisor reviews your coursework, you will receive an advising email regarding what you should do next:

- You may have already met part or ALL of SMC with courses! OR...
- Take CSET subtest(s)
- Take 1-2 courses (could possibly be done this summer at Los Rios)
- You might be able to combine courses with CSET subtests

CSET Information

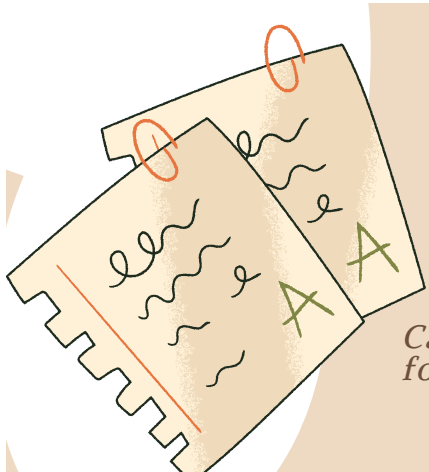
- We provide study guides that you can check out of EdEq (email edeq@csus.edu to make an appt to check out study guides)
- We can do one-on-one tutoring for some CSET tests (email edeq@csus.edu)
- We can help put together group tutoring/study groups (email edeq@csus.edu)
- We have INFO to share from those who have passed!

CSET Prep Tips

- Take the PRACTICE TESTS (if available) on the CSET website! Time yourself; take breaks between each subtest.
To find practice test & study materials, go to ctcexams.nesinc.com, click on “California Subject Exam for Teachers”, choose your test from dropdown menu (e.g. Multiple Subjects, art, math, etc); scroll to the BOTTOM of the page and click on “Preparation: View tutorials and preparation materials available for this test”
- Grade yourself and analyze your results; identify strengths & weaknesses in each section and create a **study action plan**.
- If you score lower than 75%, contact EdEq at edeq@csus.edu for support & possible tutoring.

More CSET Tips

1. Study 3-4 hours each day, focusing on ONE section/subtest at a time
2. Write as much as you know for each topic. Writing can help you remember key terms.
3. YouTube helps! Search for specific topics like “the water cycle” rather than searching for “CSET help.”
4. Documentaries on topics help with MS social science section.



MSTI **FREE CSET PREP COURSES**

California Subject Examinations Prep for Aspiring Math & Science Teachers

Summer 2025

COURSE BENEFITS:

- Free classes & materials
- Test fee reimbursement
- Open to the public
- Classes via Zoom
- Summer & winter sessions


COURSES WE OFFER:

- Multiple Subjects Math
- Multiple Subjects Science
- Algebra
- Geometry
- Foundational Sciences

**San Diego State University
Math & Science Teacher Initiative**

sdsu.msti@sdsu.edu
<https://education.sdsu.edu/research-innovation/stemed>

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER



FREE CSET Prep Courses Summer 2025

- **Multiple Subjects Math & Science, CSET Subtest 2**
- **Single Subject Foundational Level Math, CSET Subtests 1 and 2**
- **Single Subject Foundational Level General Science, CSET Subtest 1**

Educational Equity Office

- ❖ Provide resources & support for Pell eligible, 1st Gen, and/or bilingual students
- ❖ Services include:
 - ❖ Peer mentors & tutoring (e.g. CSET assistance)
 - ❖ Evaluation for Bilingual Authorization & Subject Matter Competency
 - ❖ Assistance with DACA and Undocu financial aid applications
 - ❖ Multilingual (Spanish, Hmong) and 1st Gen applicants eligible for some test fee waivers & other support

Contact Dr. Karina Figueroa Ramirez figueroaramirez@csus.edu or edeq@csus.edu or drop by 437 Eureka Hall

College of Education Contacts

Student Success Center (Advising)

Ashley Ciraulo-Stuart
Lead Advisor

Application Process & Undergraduate
pathways

(916) 278-6403
aciraulo@csus.edu

Educational Equity Program

- Dr. Karina Figueroa-Ramirez
 - Ed Equity Coordinator
- Application and scholarship assistance for diverse candidates (including DACA), bilingual authorization advising
- Figueroaramirez@csus.edu



@sacstate_edequity

Undocu- students - visit the SacState
Dreamer Resource Center



Q&A

**Questions about the Credential
Programs – put questions in Chat OR
raise your hand in Zoom**

CSET Registration Procedures

Login to Pearson System Registration to choose a
test center and date:

https://www.ctcexams.nesinc.com/PageView.aspx?f=GEN_Tests.html

Offered online or in person as Computer-Based Testing (CBT)

Results within 5 weeks

Online proctored (in your home) exam results may be
delayed an additional 2 weeks

