



EXTENSION EDUCATION PROGRAMS

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA MERCED  
EXTENSION EDUCATION PROGRAMS  
5200 N. LAKE ROAD | MERCED, CA 95343  
TEL: 209.228.4400

April 25, 2023

Dear Prospective Candidate,

The deadline to apply for the UC Merced Extension Teacher Preparation Program for the Fall 2023 term is **July 15** and the Spring 2024 term is **October 15**.

Successful admission to the Teacher Preparation Program includes completing the required assessments listed below:

CBEST – test or courses that satisfy this requirement from your undergraduate/graduate courses. CSET in the content you plan to teach UNLESS you have completed the major aligned with the content area.

If you need to take these assessments, please see the note below:

**The California State Budget** included the approval of the California Educator Exam and Performance Assessment fee waivers. This means that most California Educator Exams and Performance Assessment fees are now waived for eligible candidates as of July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023, or until funds are used.

### **What are ways to satisfy the California Basic Skills Test (CBEST) requirement?**

- You can complete **one** of the following options to complete the Basic Skills Test Requirement:
  - **Passage of CBEST**
  - Passage of basic skills examination from another state
  - Passage of CSET 142 (this option is for multiple subject candidates only)
  - Passing scores set for SAT exam
    - 500 for English and 550 for Math
  - Passing scores set for ACT exam
    - 22 for English and 23 for Math
  - A 3 or above in an approved AP English and AP Math exam
    - English language and Composition OR English Literature and Composition
    - Calculus AB, Calculus BC, or Statistics
    - Parts of different options may not be combined to meet the Basic Skills Requirement. If you are completing CBEST through SAT, ACT, or AP, you must provide the official College Board score report to verify completion of the Basic Skills Requirement.



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- Meet the Basic Skills Requirement by Coursework
  - Individuals may meet the requirement by providing official transcripts to a Commission-approved preparation program or submitting with their application packet to the Commission.
  - The transcripts must show passages of courses in reading, writing, and mathematics as outlined below.
  - Courses must have been taken at a regionally accredited college or university for credit, passed with a grade of B or better, be degree applicable, and be at least 3 semester units or 4 quarter units.
  - Qualifying coursework does not include professional development or continuing education units or in-service training or workshops. Qualifying coursework includes the following:
    - For reading proficiency: a course in critical thinking, literature, philosophy, reading, rhetoric, or textual analysis.
    - For writing proficiency: a course in composition, English, rhetoric, written communication, or writing.
    - For mathematics proficiency: a course in algebra, geometry, mathematics, quantitative reasoning, or statistics.

**What if I have taken the CBEST and haven't passed?**

You have the options listed above otherwise the examination is a required assessment for admission to the Teacher Preparation Program. For clarifying information:

[https://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/basic-skills-requirement-\(cl-667\)](https://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/basic-skills-requirement-(cl-667))

**What are ways I can satisfy the CSET without taking the exam?**

Subject matter proficiency may be demonstrated through one of the following options:

1. Completion of a [subject matter program](#) approved by the commission.
2. Passage of a subject matter [examination](#) (the California Subject Examination for Teachers or CSET)
3. Through a major that matches a subject matter in which the commission credentials candidates (see more information below).
4. Successful completion of coursework at one or more regionally accredited institutions of higher education that addresses each of the domains of the subject matter requirements.
5. Through a combination of coursework and CSET so that all domains are met.



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More information from CTC: <https://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/subject-matter-requirements>

**What if I attempted one or two subtests in the CSET but unable to finish the remaining subtest(s), can I still apply?**

You have the options listed above otherwise the examination is a required assessment for admission to the Teacher Preparation Program.

**Can I apply for Financial Aid?**

Yes, Financial Aid is available for candidates in the Teacher Preparation Program. Please complete and submit a 2023/2024 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) so that your financial aid eligibility may be determined. When completing the FAFSA, please select 5<sup>th</sup> Year/Other Undergraduate for College Grade Level. UC Merced's FAFSA School Code is 041271. Financial Aid documents must be completed in a timely manner or there may be delays receiving any award. The Financial Aid awards have taken up to 5 weeks once all documents are submitted. Here is the link for more information: <https://teacherprep.ucmerced.edu/tuition>

The Teacher Preparation Program is committed to supporting teacher candidates by developing culturally responsive teachers that are committed to empowering their students. We are aligned with the vision of the University of California, Merced—upholding 21<sup>st</sup> century priorities for interdisciplinary learning and public service. Our program is focused on building a positive learning environment and providing regular access to advice from instructors and staff.

We look forward to working with you as you pursue your goal to be a teacher.

Sincerely,

Marianna Y. Harris, Ed.D.

Director of Education Programs

University of California, Merced Extension