



at Westfield State University

Licensure Renewal Professional Development

Effective July 1, 2016, professional educators seeking license renewal are required to complete one 15 hour course in SEI/ELL and one 15 hour course in Special Education.

The Center for Teacher Education and Research at Westfield State University is offering four self-paced online courses (three, 15 hour SEI courses and one, 15 hour Special Education course) that meet the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education requirements for licensure renewal.

The following courses will meet these requirements:

SEI courses for Professional Educators

- **Course Title: “Understanding Academic Language to Improve Content Area Instruction for ELLs (differentiated by content area)” (15 PDPs)**
- ❖ **This online course will provide in-service teachers with the subject matter knowledge, professional standards, skills, and dispositions essential to effectively shelter their content instruction to ensure English language learners (ELLs) in their classrooms will successfully access curriculum and achieve academic success in the area of academic vocabulary. Teachers will learn about theories and experience evidence-based instructional practices, protocols, methods, and strategies to develop academic vocabulary. Teachers will have opportunities to practice specific modeled instructional strategies for teaching identified features of academic language in different disciplines (math, science, social studies, and ELA) while promoting language development in all language domains (reading, speaking, listening, writing) in ways appropriate for ELL students at different language proficiency levels. Teachers will take into account the English Language Development (ELD) *World Class Instructional Design and Assessment* (WIDA) standards and the *Massachusetts Curriculum Framework*, which incorporates the**

CCSS (Pre K-12), when creating lesson plans. Teachers will use the *Teacher Endorsement Lesson Plan Template*, approved by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, to create mini-lessons focused on integrating academic vocabulary for the target grade level/content area. Teachers will create a mini-lesson using the instructional strategies from the course and will keep in a professional journal portfolio. Teachers' learning will be assessed at the end of module.

❖ **Schedule and Format:**

- 4 week timeline-course can be completed anytime during the 4 weeks.
- This online course will be self-paced. There are 4 modules.
- At the end of each module, participants must earn an 80% on the online assessment before continuing to the next module.
- At conclusion of online course, participants will have a journal portfolio product, complete an online evaluation, and then be issued a certificate.

SEI course for Professional Educators without teaching responsibilities, i.e., school nurses, school social workers, school counselors, school librarians

- **Course Title: Understanding Diversity and Cultural Competency to Support ELL students in the Schools (15 PDPs)**
- ❖ This self-paced online course is intended to satisfy the 15 PDPs needed for license renewal for non-core professional educators without teaching responsibilities, i.e., school nurses, school social workers, school librarians, school counselors. It will present an overview of regulations, terminology, diversity and cultural competency, along with strategies for teaching and working with ELLs.
- ❖ The schedule and format are the same as for the SEI/ELL course.

Special Education course for Professional Educators

- **Course Title: Instructional Strategies for Exceptional Learners (15 PDPs)**
- ❖ The purpose of this self-paced online course is to present evidence-based classroom strategies for modifying instruction and behavior management to meet the unique learning needs of students with disabilities. Readings, module content, and online activities will describe specific teaching strategies to facilitate and support student progress. Specific instructional strategies matched to annual goal

.0s in a student's Individual Education Plan will be addressed: including modifications to classroom routines and organization, accommodations, and general/special education collaboration.

- ❖ **The schedule and format are the same as for the SEI/ELL course with 3 modules.**