

Literacy Scholars for the future of Los Angeles (LSLA) Scholarship
Most Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What are the goals of LSLA?

A: Students who participate in LSLA will gain an understanding of:

- How children read and write;
- The factors that contribute to early reading and writing success;
- How to conduct literacy assessment;
- Effective strategies to help at-risk and struggling readers;
- How to create lesson plans that are level appropriate;
- How to effectively communicate with parents regarding their children's literacy issues.

Q: Will I have to complete a specialized concentration to participate in LSLA?

A: Yes. Students complete the specialized concentration **INSTEAD** of one of the designated concentrations in the major. You will meet the concentration requirement by completing the specialized concentration.

Q: What are the courses I will have to take for the specialized concentration?

A: The following are the courses you will complete if you are selected for LSLA:

Fall 2008: LRS 396L, Perspectives on Literacy

This course encourages students to explore the topics, research, questions, and conversations at the intersection of the areas of language, reading and literacy within the general framework of children's early development of reading and writing. It is taught in conjunction with Practicum I, where students work with children, and consider how the research and ideas related to the content of LRS 396L are applied.

Fall 2008: LRS 496LP/F, Practicum in Early Literacy

This is the first of two practica designed to extend information and concepts presented in LRS 396L, Perspectives on Literacy. The focus of this course is on the application of research in language, development, and early literacy. The role of early intervention in the prevention of learning difficulties, and concepts related to individual differences in reading and writing are examined. Students are required to connect theory with practice, reflect upon young children's and their own reading and writing, and design, implement, and evaluate evidence-based instruction. *Fifteen hours of supervised on-campus fieldwork is required.*

Spring 2009: CHS 480, Children's Literature of Latin America in Translation

This is a second practicum designed to focus on family literacy issues. *Thirty hours of supervised fieldwork is required.*

Q: When and where will the fieldwork take place?

A: LRS 496LP/F: the fieldwork will take place in the afternoon at CSUN or a nearby site during class time. CHS 480: the fieldwork will be arranged based on your availability and the families you will be assisting. Your course instructors will provide you with your fieldwork assignment.

Q: Do I need to apply for financial aid to participate in LSLA?

A: Yes. You must submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), in order to meet one of the eligibility requirements for LSLA. Visit www.fafsa.gov for an application.

Q: Do I need to demonstrate financial need to be eligible for LSLA?

A: No. However, you must meet all the eligibility requirements as outlined on the LSLA application.

Q: What impact will receiving the scholarship have on my financial aid?

A: You should consult with a Financial Aid counselor at CSUN.

Q: How do I get the LSLA application?

A: Please go to the Liberal Studies Office, E100 or visit www.csun.edu/liberalstudies . For more information about LSLA, email Fariba at fariba.farzan@csun.edu.