

## Why Join the Award Winning ACT-R Program



### Offers Program and Employment Support

- Learn with a cohort who is talented and highly capable
- Receive financial assistance to support full time study
- Complete combined credential/MA program
- Teach in a special education position in LAUSD

### Prepares You to Teach in High Need Schools

- Gain expertise in serving English learners with special needs
- Participate in a digital learning and teaching community
- Facilitate collaborative and inclusive practices in local schools
- Learn evidence based strategies with an emphasis on language and literacy

### Provides On-the-Job Apprentices Training

- Integrate theory and practice through the shared expertise of LAUSD and CSUN
- Practice, reflect on, and improve skills under the close supervision of an accomplished mentor
- Conduct action research focusing on student outcomes
- Develop strong networks of professional support that extend through teacher induction

## How Do I Apply?

- Complete online CSUN graduate admissions application at [www.csun.edu](http://www.csun.edu)
- Request and complete Credential Program packet from Credential office; also available online  
By email: [credprep@csun.edu](mailto:credprep@csun.edu)  
By phone: (818) 677-2586
- Complete and submit downloadable application form for ACT-R Program: <http://www.csun.edu/coe/act/>



## For more information please visit our

**website:** <http://www.csun.edu/coe/act/>  
or contact the ACT-R Office  
Education Building Room 3101D  
Secretary: Mairead Saelens  
[mairread.saelens@csun.edu](mailto:mairread.saelens@csun.edu)  
(818) 677-2567

### ACT-R Co-Directors

Dr. Nancy Burstein  
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### Dr. Sue Sears

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# California State University Northridge

## Accelerated Collaborative Teacher Residency

Credential/Master's Degree Program  
Special Education:  
Early Childhood Special Education



Offered Collaboratively with  
the Los Angeles Unified  
School District (LAUSD)

<http://www.csun.edu/coe/act/>

**Interested in Making a Difference?  
ACT-R May Be For You!**



ACT-R is a combined 2-year Credential/Master's Degree Program offered collaboratively by CSUN and LAUSD. The program prepares teachers to serve students with disabilities in high need schools. Candidates obtain a credential in one year through full-time study as a teacher in residence. In the second year of the program, graduates are employed in LAUSD and obtain a Master's Degree while on-the-job. With an additional semester, candidates may obtain an Education Specialist Clear Credential. Candidates in ACT-R are eligible for a stipend of up to \$35,000 through a Teacher Quality Partnership Grant, funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

**ACT-R Program Components**

- **Core Courses:** Two courses completed by general and special education candidates that focus on foundational knowledge and skills for teachers serving diverse urban learners
- **Specialization Courses:** Classes each semester that target appropriate specialization areas
- **Clinical Experience:** One year apprenticeship completed in high need LAUSD schools with a trained and experienced special education mentor
- **MA:** Advanced coursework culminating in a Graduate Project that focuses on language and literacy

**Make a Difference**

ACT-R is committed to preparing the highest quality special educators, teachers who are able to assume leadership roles and serve as change agents in high need schools. With a focused purpose to improve student outcomes, ACT-R graduates will promote educational equity for English learners and children, adolescents, and young adults with special needs.

ACT-R Education Specialist Preliminary Credential Program: Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE)		
	Fall Semester – Year 1	Spring Semester – Year 1
Specialization	SPED 404 Social-Communication including Autism (3 units) SPED 431 Atypical Development (3 units) SPED 500 Communication and Early Literacy Development (3 units) SPED 536 Methods: Motor and Adaptive Skills (3 units) SPED 520EC Assessment and Evaluation in ECSE (3 units) SPED 535 Collaboration with Families in Early Childhood Special Education (3 units)	SPED 402 Positive Behavioral Support (3 units) SPED 532 ECSE Curriculum and Instruction (3 units) SPED 538 Early Intervention Practices (3 units) SPED 537 Methods: Sensory Impairments (3 units)
Clinical Experience	SPED 578 Fieldwork in ECSE: Infant/Toddler (3 units) (a minimum of 120 hours)	SPED 580EC Advanced Fieldwork (6 units) and SPED 580S Seminar (3 units) (full day for 15 weeks)

ACT-R Special Education MA and Education Specialist Clear Credential Programs: ECSE				
	Summer – Year 1	Fall Semester – Year 2	Spring Semester – Year 2	Fall Semester – Year 3
MA	SPED 681 Research Methods (3 units)	SPED 682 Action Research (3 units)	SPED 697 Directed Comprehensive Studies (3 units) (3 units)	
Clear Credential		SPED 628 Induction and Formative Assessment (3 units)	SPED 683EC Trends and Issues in Early Childhood Special Education (3 units)	2 courses (3 units each) selected from a menu of clear credential course options

**Awards Received for ACT and ACT-R**

- \* **Urban Impact Award** given by the Council of the Great City Schools for outstanding school-based project
- \* **Quality of Education Award** given by the California Council on Teacher Credentialing for exemplary school/university collaboration
- \* **Orfalea Initiative**, awarded by the Orfalea Foundation to incorporate neurodevelopmental methodology into the ACT Program
- \* **Teacher Quality Partnership Grant** awarded by the U.S. Department of Education to develop and implement a teaching residency program in special education to improve the achievement of students with disabilities in high-need schools