



Credential Info Night

While you are waiting ...
Take food and a handout!

Brett Bell & Gretchen Andreasen
JBEB 160
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+ Types of Programs

- Traditional university-based programs
 - Credential only
 - One year
 - Combined credential/M.A.
 - One or two years, maybe summers
- Intern
 - University-based
 - District-based
 - Other programs (TfA)



+ University-based programs in CA



- University of California
 - Often have MA built in
 - Higher academic standards (GPA > 3.0, etc.)
 - Earlier application deadlines
- CSU
 - Usually don't have MA built in
 - Lower GPA requirement than UC
 - Later and more flexible application deadlines
 - Many require application to dept. AND graduate studies
- Private Schools
 - Mills, Stanford, Santa Clara, USC, others



Selecting Schools for Applications



- Where might YOU apply?

- What do you need to find out?
 - Application timeline
 - Entrance requirements
 - Program timeline
 - Strengths/nature of program
 - Price
 - Location



Application Components/Requirements



May be required:

- Prior to application
- Prior to admission
- Prior to student teaching
- Prior to completion of program

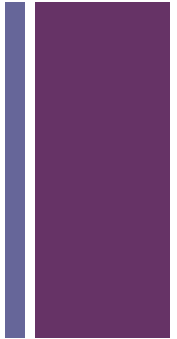
■ Materials

- Application form
- Transcript(s)
- Essays
- Resume

- Letters of Recommendation
- Tests: CBEST, CSET, GRE?
- Pre-professional field experience
- Certificate of Clearance
- TB test
- U.S. Constitution
- CPR
- Technology

+ Application Process

- Deadlines
- Application components
 - Test scores:
 - CBEST (note: paper test every 2 months, \$41; Computer-Based Exam, CBE, more dates, locations, \$102)
 - CSET (note: CBE only; \$297 for three subtests)
 - Letters of recommendation (3-5): give at least three weeks' notice; more is better
 - Pre-professional field experience: typically 30-60 hours
 - Ok to request documentation from Cal Teach
 - For UCSC should also be addressed in letter of recommendation
 - Certificate of Clearance (background check through CTC): typically prefer clearance before application deadline
 - Resume or CV
 - Writing: Statement of Purpose, etc.



+ Application/Credentialing Process: Miscellaneous

- Application fees vary (UCSC: \$90, CSU: \$55)
 - Fee waiver possible
- Writing test or sample (UCSC: up to 10 pages)
- Typically, after starting the program; before student teaching:
 - U.S. Constitution test or course (Politics 20, Politics 111, Politics 120A, and History 25A for UCSC's program)
 - Technology test or course
 - CPR certification
 - TB status





Assembling a Strong Application



- Subject-matter competence
- Overall academic strength, including writing
- Potential as a teacher, including ability to serve diverse (native language, culture, economic status) California students
- “Fit” with the program



Assembling a Strong Application: Subject Matter Competence



- Courses and grades in your major
- CSET
- Letter of recommendation from professor in your major

Note: Broader preparation makes a stronger job candidate, so take more CSET subtests

+ Assembling a Strong Application: Overall Academic Strength



- Basic educational skills qualification: SAT, ACT, AP exams, CBEST (SAT: 500 English/550 math; ACT: 22 English/23 math; AP: 3 English/3 Calculus or Statistics)
- Grades and course selection in your major
- Education courses and grades
- Grades in courses involving writing
- Letter of recommendation from someone who knows your writing and other academic strengths, **ideally a professor**



Assembling a Strong Application: Potential as a Teacher



- Experience with children, especially in a classroom at the level you want to teach
- Recommendation from someone who knows your work with children
- Education courses, classroom experience, personal experience → knowledge of cultural and linguistic diversity in California



Assembling a Strong Application: Overall Program “Fit”



- Are your goals and motivations aligned with program goals?
- Are you likely to succeed in the program, academically and professionally?
- Will your presence help the program and fellow students thrive?



Application Components: Letters of Recommendation



- Who? Ideally,
 - One or two university professors who know your academic work
 - One or two professionals who have observed your work with children
- At least one letter should address each major area (but any individual letter may address more than one area):
 - Subject matter competence
 - Overall academic competence
 - Potential as a teacher
- Treat your letter writers with respect
 - Lead time
 - Clear instructions: what is the purpose of the letter, what do you hope it will include, how to send, deadline
 - Four letters are fine, if three are requested, but six is overkill!



Application Components: Essays



- Demonstrate your writing ability
- Address your “fit” with the program
- Help YOU articulate your own goals and perspective on teaching



Application Components: Essays



- Why do you want to teach?

MOTIVATION TO TEACH

- How has your personal background affected your motivation to become a teacher?

- Why should this program's faculty pick you?

PREPARATION

- How has your personal and academic background prepared you for success in this program and as a teacher?

- Why do you want to come to THIS program?

MOTIVATION FOR GRAD PROGRAM

- What do you hope to gain from this program in particular that will help you achieve your goals?

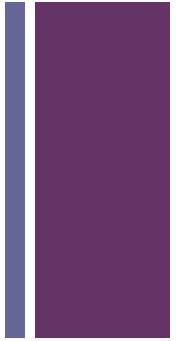
+ Financing a Credential



- Sources of funding
 - Federal funding (Pell Grant, TEACH Grant)
 - State funding (Cal Grant extension)
 - Private funding (individual scholarships)
 - Local funding (federal grants, private donors)
- Types of funding
 - Grants, Scholarships, Fellowships
 - No strings vs. service requirement
 - Loan forgiveness in exchange for service
 - Loans
 - Early career teacher support (KSTF, MfA, Cal Teach)

+ Financing a Credential

- Qualifications for funding
 - Financial need
 - Academic qualifications and potential
 - Service
 - Combination of above
- Pursuing funding
 - Tied to location or program, or independent
 - Federal financial aid process
 - Application to specific program



+ Support from Cal Teach

- Noyce Scholarships for UCSC program
 - Meet the Districts – TBD fall quarter; attendance (or documented conflict) required
 - Applications due January 15 (typically)
 - Interviews in winter quarter
- Selecting and approaching recommenders to write letters
- Individual meeting about your application process (schedule with Brett, btbell@ucsc.edu)
- Reimbursement for test fees (contact calteach@ucsc.edu)
- Reimbursement for Certificate of Clearance (contact calteach@ucsc.edu)
- Study group facilitation (contact calteach@ucsc.edu in fall)





Presentation Materials are available to you!

- Credential Programs informational handout
- CBEST + CSET practice tests + information
- Funding Opportunities document
- Power Point slides

