

California State University, Fresno
Masters in Deaf Education
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. I am interested in your Deaf Education graduate program. However, I do not have an undergraduate degree in Deaf Education. I have a B.A. in _____. What are my options?

Generally, a Bachelor of Arts degree in Deaf Education is required to apply to our graduate program. For students with a bachelor's degree *outside of Deaf Education*, they can take the prerequisite Deaf Education online modules at Fresno State's Continuing and Global Education (CGE). These modules are non-credit, self-paced, and 100% online. There are three different subsequent online modules – Overview Concepts of Deaf Education, Intermediate Concepts of Deaf Education, and Advanced Concepts of Deaf Education. It is **strongly recommended** that you complete the prerequisite modules before August 1 for consideration for full classified admission.

2. Can I register for the prerequisite Deaf Education online courses?

Yes, you can register anytime for the prerequisite Deaf Education online modules. For fall admission, you must complete your graduate school application and register for prerequisite online modules on or before April 1st. **To register for online modules**, please contact Mr. David Hoff, CGE Coordinator, at davhoff@csufresno.edu and give him your full name and email address. You will receive Fresno State email address after registering for the online module. It is free to take an overview concept of Deaf Education module. As for the Intermediate and Advanced Concepts of Deaf Education modules, it costs \$50.00 each.

3. How many applications do you receive a year?

It varies every year, but we receive anywhere from 10 to 25 applications.

4. How many admission offers are given out?

We accept approximately 20 candidates for Fall admission only.

5. What do you consider when reviewing applicants?

We look at your GPA (see #5, below), GRE scores (see #6, below), 3 letters of recommendation, and your letter of intent. We want to feel confident that students who are accepted will be able to handle the academic demands of graduate level coursework and writing requirements. We also look for any volunteer or work experiences that might show leadership, good people skills, insight into working with individuals that have special needs, an ability to work with people from diverse backgrounds, or clinical potential.

6. What is the range of GPAs that you take in?

This varies. To apply, a minimum 3.0 GPA is required for your overall GPA, last 60 units, and your major classes. The student's GPAs for their last 60 units and for their major classes are calculated and used for admission consideration.

7. Is there any minimum GRE score or average scores?

We do not have a cutoff GRE score requirement.

8. How long is the program?

It is a two-year program which includes 4 semesters of coursework, including and 3 semesters of clinical practicum and one semester of student teaching or internship.

9. Can I attend the program part time?

The program is designed so that you move through as a member of a cohort. You are expected to take 3 courses (3 units each), plus your clinical practicum each semester. During your final one semester, you will be completing your student teaching or internship, essentially working at those sites 4 or 5 days a week, then taking you classes three afternoons or evenings a week. We do not offer any kind of part time alternative to this schedule.

10. What if I am teaching with the DHH University Intern Credential and complete required coursework, but have not met all program requirements (e.g., the RICA exam or writing proficiency requirement)?

If you have completed graduate courses but have not completed the program requirements, contact Dr. Janice Smith-Warshaw, Deaf Education Program Coordinator. You must continue to be enrolled or your intern credential will be cancelled.

11. How can I apply for the intern program?

The applicant must be employed, or offered employment, as a special education teacher of record at a cooperating local educational agency (LEA) (e.g., school district). The LEA is designated as a cooperating LEA through a signed Memorandum of Understanding with Fresno State. Admission requirements including the following:

- Passage of the appropriate subject matter exam (Multiple or Single Subject CSET) or clearance from an academic program
- Passage of basic skills requirement (e.g., CBEST)
- Verification of the U.S. Constitution requirement
- Clearance of TB test and fingerprints
- Completion of prerequisite online modules or B.A. degree in Deaf Education

Department web site: <http://fresnostate.edu/chhs/csds/>

Fresno State Course Catalog: <http://www.fresnostate.edu/catalog/>

Division of Graduate Studies: <http://www.fresnostate.edu/academics/gradstudies/>