

teacher in terms of character and fitness to be a teacher.

How do I start the enrolment process?

There are three separate processes involved in getting enrolled.

1. Apply for entry to Postgraduate Diploma in Specialist Teaching.

Begin this step by downloading and completing the "Application for Award Entry" from the College of Education website: www.education.canterbury.ac.nz

Information that you will need to complete this step:

- Official copies of your university transcripts (except UC) and names of references.
 - The PGDip Specialist Teaching (Early Intervention) (part time) is the award you should apply for.
 - When you have everything completed, post the form. Please keep a photocopy for yourself!
- ### 2. Apply to enrol at the University of Canterbury
- Download and complete the "Application to Enrol" form from <http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/enrol/new/apply.shtml>
 - The two courses usually taken in the first year are: EDST601 Core Theory and Foundations and EDST631 Theory and Foundations of Early Intervention.
 - Phone the Student Contact Centre 0800 827 748 with your completed Application to Enrol form. Do not mail this form, keep it for your records.
- ### 3. When you have been approved into the award and the course(s) you will be sent an enrolment offer for you to accept or decline.

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How much time will this programme take?

You should expect to study for an average of 300 hours per course although the number of hours will vary depending on your study skills. Study at Canterbury is divided into two 15 week semesters. Thus for students taking two courses per year, work would typically be 300 hours per semester. Each course has a full time block component so you should expect to study for around 15 hours per week outside of the block week. Time during the week may be spent in online activities, reading, and completing course assessments. You are expected to manage your own study schedules, and to plan ahead for study time during each week.

What are the fees? Am I eligible for a Study Award?

Please refer to the Course Information website for up to date fees information:

<http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/courses/>

Study awards and scholarships may be available through the Ministry of Education. For more information visit <http://www.minedu.govt.nz/sestudyawards>

What qualifications do I need to enrol?

In general, students need a teaching qualification in Early Childhood, have sufficient background of professional experience to benefit from the course (for example, some experience of children with special needs), and meet the UC requirements for postgraduate study (typically a B+ average in 300-level courses). Students will also need a current police check, (if not currently held) and must meet requirements equivalent to those set down by the New Zealand Teachers Council for registration as a

Postgraduate Diploma in Specialist Teaching (Early Intervention)

The PGDipSpTch endorsed in Early Intervention is part of an exciting new development in postgraduate specialist teaching developed by leading educators and researchers from Massey University and the University of Canterbury. It is one of the programmes designed to develop core and specialist knowledge and skills relevant to the field of early intervention within the context of interprofessional practice.

What is early intervention?

Early intervention is an exciting field, providing opportunities to support families and early childhood educators so that infants and young children can make early gains toward reaching their potential. Children in early intervention range in age from birth to five years, and have special learning, development and behavioural needs. Families and early childhood centres may need support to help the children learn and develop their competencies prior to school entry. There has been enormous growth in research identifying powerful strategies that early interventionists can use to make meaningful differences for families and children. A graduate of this programme will acquire knowledge and practical skills to help families and early childhood educators to support children, as well as develop strategies for ongoing professional development.

How will the courses in this programme be taught?

This new qualification implements an inquiry-based interprofessional learning model, which means that part of the training will be shared with other specialists working in related areas, and also means that face-to-face interactions will typically involve an inquiry model, rather than a lecture model associated with undergraduate teaching. Thus, students will use self-directed study to gain core knowledge and to research ideas, and face-to-face meetings will encourage application, discussion and problem-solving.

Where will these courses be taught?

The programme will be delivered via the Flexible Learning Option (FLO) involving both distance and face-to-face learning. This involves a combination of on-campus block classes (one week block per semester), virtual face-to-face course meetings and on-line course activities, and self-directed study using a variety of online resources available via the University's online learning management system as well as textbooks. Access to broadband internet is therefore strongly advised.

In the second year of the course, students will work with supervision in an approved setting – where the student is currently employed or an approved alternative site – to deliver evidence-based early intervention support strategies to families and early childhood educators.

***This is a national programme,
and applicants from throughout
New Zealand are encouraged to apply.***

What does this qualification prepare me for?

Graduates will be able to be employed as Early Intervention Teachers. In addition, students may be eligible for entry into Masters degree programmes. Most early intervention services in New Zealand are provided through the Ministry of Education.

What will I learn?

This endorsement will develop students' specialist knowledge in the field of early intervention. A graduate of this course is expected to be able to demonstrate:

1. Specialist theory and skills required in the field of early intervention.
2. The specialist skills, research, attitudes and evidence-based practices needed for professionals to work effectively with children, families, early childhood educators and whānau in early intervention.
3. Skills relating to reflective and ethical practice and ongoing professional development.
4. Māori and multicultural concepts and practices as they relate to early intervention.

What are the courses of study?

- EDST601 Core Theory and Foundations of Specialist Teaching
- EDST631 Theory and Foundations of Early Intervention
- EDST632 Evidence-based Interprofessional Practice in Early Intervention
- EDST633 Practicum in Early Intervention

How long is the programme of study?

The Postgraduate Diploma will generally be completed part-time over two years. There are two 30 point courses per year. As the first year courses are pre-requisite for the second year courses, completing the course in less than two years is not currently possible. In some cases, the programme may be completed in three or four years.