



We can accommodate a cohort of students from anywhere in the country!



CA Department of Education

Dropout Prevention Specialist Certificate Program



The University of Values

Additional support services available from
National University Virtual High School

National University, Division of Extended Learning
Call **1.800.NAT.UNIV**, ext. 8600 or visit **www.nu.edu/el**
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Dropout Prevention Specialist Certificate Program

Program Structure

This six-course certificate program prepares individuals to become a Dropout Prevention Specialist (DPS) and be an advocate in the lives of children in at-risk situations. Individuals learn about successful strategies proven to help young students stay in school and improve the quality of our nation's student graduates. Early identification and intervention, creating and improving resiliency factors, and a nurturing school climate are among the strategies suggested for students at high risk of failure. A DPS will foster whole and emotionally healthy children who will score higher on exams, learn more, and enjoy school more.

The six-course DPS Certificate Program was developed in close collaboration with the CA Department of Education (CDE). All National University DPS Instructors are certified DPS. Completion of the six courses meets the requirements of the CA Education Code (52890 [a]-[g]).

Course Delivery Mode

Classes are designed to be synchronous. Students will participate remotely with real-time Voice Over Internet Protocol iLinc Technology. Broadband access is mandatory.

Learning Outcomes

- Earn a Dropout Prevention Specialist Certificate in accordance with California Education Code Section 52890
- Employ local alternative educational programs to respond to the unique needs and learning styles of pupils
- Demonstrate knowledge of local community agencies to assist in the physical or psychological remediation of pupils
- Use local school programs and opportunities to assist pupils in securing, or retaining employment
- Use techniques that enhance interpersonal communication, self-understanding, self-disclosure, and depth-level sharing
- Employ appropriate methods to encourage change in individuals, programs, and institutions
- Be responsible for supervising, instructing, conducting negotiations with, and advising pupils and adults

Methods of Assessment and Evaluation

Students are assessed on their comprehension of course material through class attendance, participation, weekly assignments, and instructor evaluation. Students will receive a grade of Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory.

Course Descriptions (6 courses, 7.2 CEUs)

DPX 1810X Introduction to Dropout Prevention

This course provides an overview of the philosophy behind dropout prevention and the key elements of quality school site models. Learn elements of writing a successful application for a funded state department program. This course serves as a foundation for subsequent courses that define the strategies necessary to achieve dropout prevention outcomes and identify competencies required by the dropout prevention specialist.

DPX 1820X Student Success Team (SST): The Real Secret of Prevention

Learn how to investigate, identify and inquire about the problems facing those students while being sensitive to the diversity of the population. The SST members develop an ongoing, monitored, individual support plan to address the students' needs and work to develop a solutions-oriented support plan.

DPX 1830X Assessment and Accountability

Review ongoing assessment principles and practical strategies for gaining essential data and designing an improvement plan. Learn the continuous improvement process that begins and ends with the evaluation of student work.

DPX 1840X Using School and Community Resources to Foster Student Resiliency

Focus on how schools institute resiliency factors to assist students and staff in overcoming personal, family, and institutional obstacles to achieve success. Strategies for bringing school staff, students, and community into the resilience effort are discussed. This class elaborates on heavily researched resiliency factors and how these factors can be institutionalized into schools. Also addressed is the need for school staff to broaden their mode of operation to become more community based and family-focused.

DPX 1850X Communication, Coordination of Services, Collaboratives, and School and Community Involvement

Explore the benefits of expanding the scope of potential support, involving community support agencies, parents, and interested community members. Definitions of the major components of school outreach (communication, coordination, collaboration, and school and community involvement) are also covered.

DPX 1860X Relevant Issues in Dropout Prevention

Success for students in high-risk-failure schools is the real outcome of the DPS's efforts. The DPS serves as a school-wide catalyst in many areas of a school's improvement efforts. The DPS coordinates student support services from state and federal grants, local agencies, and parent and community efforts. Class discussions center on the relationship between the DPS and the school community.

Seating is limited, so enroll today! Fill out and fax to: 858.642.8714

Schedule (tentative)

Dates:

Jan 7, 2009 – Dec 2, 2009
Apr 8, 2009 – Mar 10, 2010
July 8, 2009 – Jun 9, 2010
Sep 30, 2009 – Sept 8, 2010
Jan 6, 2010 – Dec 1, 2010
April 7, 2010 – March 9, 2011
July 7, 2010 – June 8, 2011
Sept 29, 2010 – Sept 7, 2011

Time:

Wednesday evenings,
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Mail checks to:

National University
Division of Extended Learning
11255 North Torrey Pines Road
La Jolla, CA 92037-1011

Fees:

Course one: \$375
Courses two – six: \$325 each
(Textbook and headset fees not included)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

ZIP: _____

Day Phone: _____

SSN: _____

DOB: _____

Student ID#: _____

E-mail address: _____

Ethnic origin (check one): Hispanic American Indian or Alaska Native Asian Black or African American Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander White Two or more races Elected not to respond Countries of Origin _____

Check enclosed for: \$ _____ (Make check payable to: National University)

Or charge to (check one): VISA MASTERCARD AMEX DISCOVER

Account #: _____

Exp. date: _____

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____



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