

## 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. Each course has a full-time block course component so you should expect to study for around 20 hours per week per course outside of the block courses. 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 our website for up to date fees information: [www.canterbury.ac.nz/future-students/fees-and-funding/](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/future-students/fees-and-funding/)

Study awards and scholarships may be available through the Ministry of Education. For more information visit [www.education.govt.nz/school/working-in-a-school/scholarships-for-people-working-in-schools/special-education-study-awards-and-scholarships](http://www.education.govt.nz/school/working-in-a-school/scholarships-for-people-working-in-schools/special-education-study-awards-and-scholarships)

## What qualifications do I need to enrol?

In general, students need a New Zealand teaching qualification, current NZ Teachers' Council registration, and sufficient background of professional experience to benefit from the course. For example, at least two years experience as a classroom teacher and some experience working with students with complex educational needs.

## 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 form from our website [www.education.canterbury.ac.nz/apply/postgrad.shtml](http://www.education.canterbury.ac.nz/apply/postgrad.shtml)

Information that you will need to complete this step:

- Official certified copies of your academic transcripts showing grades and conferment of award, current New Zealand teacher registration, a birth certificate or passport and the names of two references.
  - The PGDip Specialist Teaching (Complex Educational Needs) (part time) is the programme you should apply for.
  - Please keep a photocopy for yourself before posting to: Applications Administrator, College of Education, Health and Human Development, University of Canterbury, Private Bag 4800, Christchurch 8140, NEW ZEALAND.
2. Apply to enrol at the University of Canterbury online via myUC <https://myuc.canterbury.ac.nz/>
    - The two courses usually taken in the first year are: EDST601 Core Theory and Foundations and EDST651 Theory and Foundations of Complex Educational Needs.
    - Phone the Student Contact Centre 0800 827 748 or email [enrol@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:enrol@canterbury.ac.nz) if you need assistance enrolling online.
  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.

## For further information contact:

Dr. Laurie McLay  
Complex Educational Needs Endorsement Coordinator  
Phone: +64 3 364 2987 ext. 8691  
Email: [specialistteaching@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:specialistteaching@canterbury.ac.nz)

University of Canterbury  
Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha  
Private Bag 4800, Christchurch 8140, New Zealand  
[www.canterbury.ac.nz](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz)

# Complex Educational Needs.



# PGDipSpTch

The PGDipSpTch endorsed in Complex Educational Needs is part of a suite of postgraduate specialist teaching qualifications developed by leading educators and researchers from Massey University and the University of Canterbury. The programme is designed to develop core and specialist knowledge and skills relevant to the field of complex needs within the context of interprofessional practice.

The Year One Specialist course focuses on presence, participation and achievements for students with complex needs. It covers personal, historical, theoretical and rights-based perspectives on complex educational needs; families/whanau and wellbeing; teaching and learning within the New Zealand curriculum; assessment and planning; language and communication; and movement and access.

In Year Two the evidence-based practice course looks in more depth at responsive approaches to teaching and learning, and working collaboratively. The practicum course provides the opportunity to work with children who have complex educational needs.

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

# Postgraduate Diploma in Specialist Teaching (Complex Educational Needs)

## How will the courses in this programme be taught?

This Diploma 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 the 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 a blended learning approach involving both distance and face-to-face learning. This involves a combination of on-campus block courses, virtual face-to-face meetings; online course activities and self-directed study using a variety of online resources available the library and Specialist Teaching moodle site as well as textbooks. Access to broadband internet is strongly advised.

In the second year of the course, students will engage in practical tasks completed at an appropriate setting, such as where students are currently employed or an approved alternative site.

## What does this qualification prepare me for?

Graduates will be able to be employed working with students who have complex educational needs. In addition, graduates may be eligible for entry into the Master of Specialist Teaching, Master of Education, Master of Counselling or Master of Health Sciences degrees.

## What will I learn?

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

1. Specialist theory and skills required in the field of complex educational needs.
2. The specialist skills, research, attitudes and evidence-based practices needed for professionals to work effectively with students, families and teachers in educational contexts.
3. Skills relating to reflective and ethical practice and ongoing professional development.
4. Māori and multicultural concepts and practices as they relate to complex educational needs.

## How long is the programme of study?

The Postgraduate Diploma is typically completed part-time over two years. There are two courses per year (each course is 30 points). As the first year courses are prerequisites for the second year courses, completing the programme in less than two years is not possible. In some cases, the programme may be completed over four years.

## What are the courses of study?

- EDST601 Core Theory and Foundations of Specialist Teaching
- EDST651 Theory and Foundations of Complex Educational Needs
- EDST652 Evidence-based Interprofessional Practice in Complex Educational Needs
- EDST653 Practicum in Complex Educational Needs