PDI

Course Approval Request Form

Use this customized approval request form to print and share with your district or state teaching licensure authority when seeking approval for a Professional Development Institute course.

About PDI

The Professional Development Institute (PDI) has been offering quality online courses to K-12 educators for decades and providing training to teachers across the globe. Every PDI course is approved for graduate-level credit through the prestigious University of California San Diego Division of Extended Studies, ranked in the top ten universities in the United States.

UC San Diego is part of the University of California system and is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC).

Every PDI course is instructor-led and includes practical strategies for immediate implementation into the classroom, opportunities to interact with the instructor and other participants, rich content, and valuable assignments. Every PDI course is approved as 3 1/3 semester units (or 5 quarter units) of graduate-level credit, equivalent to 50 training hours. Teachers must spend a minimum of three weeks in each course (consecutively, when taking multiple courses) before a final grade is released.

Teacher Information

Last Name:	First Name:	ID #:
School Name:	**Address:**	
Email Address:	**Grade Level:**	**Daytime Phone:**

Course Number and Title:

140T02 / EDUC42374   Embracing Technology to Empower Students with Special Needs

I am taking this course:

_____ for 3 1/3 semester unit of graduate level credit. Upon completion, I will receive a transcript from UC San Diego Division of Extended Studies.

_____ as an in-service course. I may request a PDI Grade Report to document my completion.

This course is approved as 50 training hours, whether taken for graduate credit or in-service.

Course Description:

Do you have students with diverse learning needs and disabilities? Are you looking for ways to use technology to empower your special needs students? This online course is designed to help K-12 teachers use technology to meet the diverse learning needs of students with special needs and disabilities. The course begins with a discussion on the critical role technology plays in special education and how teachers must break the cycle of inaccessibility students with special needs face. Differentiated instruction and Universal Design for Learning are explored as teaching strategies for meeting the various needs of students. Teachers will learn about digital accessibility and be provided with many practical strategies for creating accessible learning materials for students. From there, teachers are provided with various technology tools that can be used to support students with challenges in verbal expression, communication, written expression, reading comprehension, math, and executive function. Teachers will also learn how to create a sensory-friendly environment for students with sensory processing disorder as well as learn about strategies and tools for teaching social-emotional learning to students with special needs. Finally, teachers are provided with tips for keeping students safe online and tools for promoting digital citizenship. By the end of the course, teachers will have a deep understanding of how to create accessible classroom content and become more familiar with technology tools to empower students with special needs.

Seeking approval for:

_____ recertification/relicensure

_____ personal and/or professional growth

_____ district or state requirement

Signature   Date