



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:
168T02 / EDUC42651 Recognizing and Responding to Students' Speech and Language Needs

I am taking this course:

_____ for 3 1/3 semester units 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:

Have you ever wondered why some students struggle to communicate clearly, participate in class discussions, or keep up with reading and writing tasks? This online course for teachers takes a comprehensive look at speech and language needs that can appear in PreK-5 classrooms and equips teachers with evidence-based strategies to address them. The course begins with an overview of communication disorders, highlighting their impact on student participation, literacy, academic performance, and social-emotional development, as well as the roles of the school team, families, and the community in providing support. Throughout the rest of the course, teachers will explore articulation and phonology, fluency, vocabulary, grammar and syntax, and comprehension needs. Each unit introduces the nature of one of these challenges, its impact on students' academic and language development, and practical methods for identifying, accommodating, and intervening effectively. Teachers will gain insight into how speech and language difficulties affect learning across the content areas and discover interventions that can be integrated into everyday instruction. Special attention is given to the needs of students with co-occurring disabilities, such as autism spectrum disorder, dyslexia, and attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, as well as multilingual learners, ensuring inclusive and equitable practices. By the end of this continuing education course, educators will be prepared to recognize early signs of speech and language needs, apply classroom-based supports, and use developmentally appropriate interventions to promote language and literacy growth for every learner.

Seeking approval for:

_____ recertification/relicensure

_____ personal and/or professional growth

_____ district or state requirement

Signature

Date