

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.

Signature

| Last Name:   | First Name:  | ID #:          |
|--|--------------|----------------|
| School Name:   | Address:     |                |
| Email Address:   | Grade Level: | Daytime Phone: |
| Course Number and Title:  42T02/ EDUC41465 Effective Strategies to Improve Student Writing   |              |                |
| 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:  Are you looking for effective ways to help your student writers? Do you find that your students dread the writing process? This online course provides teachers with strategies that are sure to improve students' writing skills. Teachers will be provided with effective ways to teach students how to write successful narrative essays, persuasive essays, and informative essays. The course also focuses on teaching students a step-by-step process for writing research reports, including note-taking and outlining skills. Technology is another area of focus addressing digital research, information literacy, digital storytelling, and iPad writing apps. Teachers will also learn ways to help struggling writers as well as motivate reluctant writers. Strategies for using literature as an inspiration for writing will be shared as well as using the six traits to expand and improve writing. Tips for teaching writing to English language learners will be shared in order to expand the skills of this special population. Writer's workshop is introduced within the context of the writing process. A variety of assessment options are explored and shared. Finally, ideas for using writing across the curriculum and presented and explored. By the end of this course, teachers will have the tools they need to help their students become better and more effective writers. |              |                |
| Seeking approval for:  recertification/relicensure  personal and/or professional growth  district or state requirement   |              |                |