

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH

POLICY STATEMENT

NUMBER: 74-II

UNIFORM FILE

REFERENCE: External Degree
Program

SUBJECT: CSULB Participation in Statewide External Degree Program: Master of Arts in Vocational Education

The Statewide External Degree Program is designed to prepare leaders for employment in public and private institutions and agencies providing programs of vocational education and manpower development and to provide for individual study, growth, and applied research.

Individual - To provide the opportunity for a select group of individuals to pursue advanced studies in vocational education — a population and a field of study heretofore not served in California. Many potential students are not able to matriculate in the traditional mode; many learners are not "campus oriented" and learn better and faster in a non-campus mode; this program is intended for such individuals.

Thus the program will extend degree and higher educational opportunities to employees in public and private sectors. The program is designed to meet both employee and employer needs, and make use of joint program and evaluation advisory teams, representative of industry, business, higher education and government.

Also it will demonstrate the use of new/emerging instructional delivery systems.

Institutional - To allow the various campuses of the California State College and University system to serve better the needs of its publics; i.e., to offer a program of instruction to a select population that could likely not be offered without the services of the External Degree Program. Thus to extend the program developed on one campus to all 19; to extend the campus boundaries into the communities of the State; to offer new alternatives for delivering higher education.

Thus the program in vocational education will extend degree and higher educational opportunities to people whose occupational, economic or family responsibilities, or personal preferences do not permit them to spend major blocks of time on-campus and in-residence in any existing undergraduate or graduate program of higher education.

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Currently there exists at CSU, Long Beach, an instructional program leading to the Master of Arts in Vocational Education. The goals of this program were derived from the Long Beach Program and placed in external degree mode to make a similar program available to persons in the geographic service areas of the remainder of the State.

- a. Program Location - The program is intended for all 19 campuses of the State Colleges and Universities that choose to serve the particular client-student; especially those 9 campuses that currently offer the BVE degree.
- b. Source of Students - Students will be drawn primarily from the various sectors of vocational education — namely Agriculture, Business, Home Economics and Industrial Education. Many will be drawn from the newer or emerging occupational fields; e.g., allied health occupations, public service, personal service occupations. It is anticipated that a large percentage of students will be employed in teaching, supervision, and administrative positions of vocational/occupational/career education and manpower development programs.
- c. Faculty - The number of faculty is estimated to be at least one per participating institution. Regular faculty members and non-campus part-time personnel will be utilized for instruction. All adjunct personnel utilized for instructional purposes will be approved by the academic department offering the course in cooperation with the Personnel Office of the campus. Currently at least 8 campuses have personnel responsible for the Baccalaureate degree program in Vocational Education. These same individuals would likely be utilized in that they already are knowledgeable in vocational education.
- d. Cooperative Agencies - Personnel from the California State Department of Human Resources Development, the State and National Chamber of Commerce, the National Advisory Council on Vocational Education, the State Advisory Council on Vocational Education (to name just a few) have been contacted and are enthusiastic about the program and are willing to cooperate and lend assistance in its development and implementation.
- e. Type of Instruction - The methods and techniques of instruction will be both traditional and innovative; e.g.,
 - independent study with periodic seminars
 - independent study
 - prescribed individualized study via media (carrel work) and modular instructional packages
 - program supervised internships
 - student research/development
 - ongoing 2-way communication (professor-student) via cassette audiographics, and the written page
 - classfront with lecture and group discussion
 - case histories
 - actual and simulated situations and gaming

The program will be conducted by CSULB in cooperation with any or all 19 participating campuses.

Requirements for admission to the program include:

- a. Submission of completed application form.
- b. Submission of letter of recommendation from supervisor or responsible person in the community.
- c. Oral interview with local coordinator.
- d. Submission of vita or personal data sheet.
- e. Possession of stated program prerequisites: BA, Voc Ed Credential, GPA, etc.
- f. Meeting of regular local campus procedures and regulations.
- g. Acceptance by the Office of Admissions and regulations.
- h. Positive indications of demonstrated leadership or potential and promise in vocational education.
- i. Demonstration of scholastic achievement in schools and colleges attended.

Students may be advanced to candidacy after successful completion of the required "core" courses (VE 501, 502, 503, 504, 696). Criteria for advancement shall be:

- a. Removal of all undergraduate deficiencies.
- b. Earning a 3.0 (B) average in all graduate work completed at the university or transferred to meet degree requirements.
- c. Completion of other requirements, if any, specified by the area of major concentration.

Students must file an application for advancement; the local campus vocational education facilitator will be responsible for assuring each step of the process of evaluating student's applications have been properly completed. Review and final approval shall be granted by the Coordinator of Graduate Studies and Research, School of Applied Arts and Sciences.

Awarding of the degree will be done by CSULB to the student who has successfully completed the requirements.

The pilot program will be one which meets system standards for academic quality. The following criteria, in part, assures this:

- a. Instruction will be offered by regular members of the faculty as well as adjunct personnel who have demonstrated eminence in vocational education leadership at state or regional or local levels of delivery. Adjunct personnel will be screened and employed utilizing usual local campus processes.
- b. Local on-campus staff will be responsible for continuous evaluation of the curriculum and the assessment of enrolled students. In addition, inputs from a state-wide Board of Advisors will be utilized in this regard.
- c. Library and other relevant instructional resources will be utilized. For example, the California State Department of Education, Vocational Education Division, has volunteered its resources to this proposed

program. Also the Center for Career Studies, CSULB, has accumulated a large spectrum of texts, references and related materials which will be made available to students and participating campuses. Access to adequate library resources will be made available to all enrollees through regular campus library services, county and city libraries and instructional resources of government and school districts throughout the State. A regular library card will be issued by the nearest campus to the enrollee's permanent residence. Interlibrary loans through campus libraries will be of great value to the enrollees.

The Master of Arts in Vocational Education is graduate level instruction and utilizes undergraduate upper division courses as electives and foundations.

The degree program will require completion of an interdisciplinary program of at least 30 units beyond the Bachelor's Degree. The following five courses compose a required core of vocational education studies:

- VE 501 Manpower Development and Career Education Programs
- VE 502 Vocational Education Administration
- VE 503 Management of Vocational Education Programs
- VE 504 The Environments of Vocational Education
- VE 696 Research Methods in Vocational Education