MEd Special Education Program

with the Preliminary Mild to Moderate Credential

School of Leadership and Education Sciences

University of San Diego

2019 Exit Survey Results

This report was prepared by the USD-SOLES Office of Accreditation & Assessment on December 4, 2019.
Executive Summary

Exit Survey Overview

The School of Leadership and Education Sciences (SOLES) - Office of Accreditation and Assessment administers the Exit Survey to graduating and credential completing students at the University of San Diego (USD) annually. The Exit Survey affords students the opportunity to reflect on their program experiences and to provide valuable feedback utilized for program review. This report is specific to the results for graduates who earned a MEd in Special Education with the preliminary mild to moderate education specialist credential for the combined years of 2019, with data from 2018 and data from 2017 provided for comparison purposes.

Rating Scale

Two different five-point rating scales were used in this survey. The goal is to have mean response ratings in the four to five range for each item. The rating scales used are:

- Strongly Agree (5), Agree (4), Neutral (3), Disagree (2), Strongly Disagree (1)
- Extremely Well (5), Fairly Well (4), Moderately (3), Poorly (2), Not At All (1)

Response Rate

Table 1 shows the percent of graduates of the MEd Special Education Program with the Preliminary Mild to Moderate Credential who responded to the Exit Survey for the last three years. The 2019, 2018, and 2017 response rates are 25%, 56%, and 78% respectively.

Table 1

Exit Survey Response Rates for Masters/Preliminary Education Specialist Graduates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Completion Years</th>
<th>Total Number of Graduates*</th>
<th>Total Number of Respondents</th>
<th>Exit Survey Response Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4**</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Refers to the number of graduates for which correct email addresses were obtained.

**Please note the n’s for 2019 reflect a range of responses or total responses below 3.
Summary of Findings

Graduates were asked to rate aspects of the MEd Special Education Program with the Preliminary Mild to Moderate Credential in nine areas. The 2019 Cronbach’s alpha values were as follows: faculty (.85); advisors (.53); intellectual climate (.91); program support and communication (.96); university support (.93); career preparation (1.0); enhanced ability through coursework (1.0); technology skills developed (1.0); and the overall program (.98), suggesting relatively mostly high internal consistency of survey item responses. (Note that a reliability coefficient of .70 or higher is considered “acceptable” in most social science research situations.) Three of the 2019 composite mean ratings were in the desired four to five range (using a 5-point scale). These ratings indicate moderate levels of student satisfaction with the MEd Special Education Program with the Preliminary Mild to Moderate Credential at the University of San Diego. Figure 1 shows the comparison of 2019, 2018 and 2017 means displayed for comparison purposes. Please note the n’s for 2019 reflect a range of responses or total responses below 3.

![Figure 1. 2019, 2018, and 2017 Candidates' Exit Survey Ratings of the MEd in Special Education Program with the Preliminary Mild to Moderate Credential](image)

*Rating Scale 1: Strongly Agree (5), Agree (4), Neutral (3), Disagree (2), Strongly Disagree (1)
^Rating Scale 2: Extremely Well (5), Fairly Well (4), Moderately (3), Poorly (2), Not At All (1)
**Please note the n’s for 2019 reflect a range of responses or total responses below 3.