



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 credit through the American College of Education and the prestigious University of California San Diego Division of Extended Studies.

American College of Education is approved by the Higher Learning Commission. UC San Diego is part of the University of California system and is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

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. 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:

127T02 / ACE: LE5387 / UCSD: EDUC42260 / Focused Interventions to Improve Executive Function Skills

I am taking this course:

- for 3 semester units of graduate-level, degree-eligible credit through American College of Education.
- for 3 1/3 semester units of post-baccalaureate credit through UC San Diego Division of Extended Studies.
- as an in-service course. I may request a PDI Grade Report to document my completion.

Course Description:

Have you ever worked with a student who just can't seem to grasp a certain concept, no matter how hard either of you tries? Or perhaps you may have encountered a student whose desk is such a mess that s/he can never seem to remember where s/he put things? Or a student who, having just listened to you explain directions, has no ideas where to start? While frustrating, these scenarios (and others like them) can be explained by a deficit in a student's executive function (EF) skills. Executive functioning involves the neurological processes used by students to consciously control their thoughts, emotions, and actions so that goals can be set and achieved. This online course begins by explaining what executive functioning is and how critical it is to the learning process. Teachers will take a deep dive into eight core EFs that control not only students' ability to think metacognitively, but their ability to respond appropriately using their social-emotional skills. The role of working memory is explored first, as it is an essential element in the processing, storing, and retrieval of information. Teachers will learn how this critical executive function interacts with seven additional EFs — task initiation, planning and prioritizing, organization, self-monitoring, impulse control, shift (a/k/a cognitive flexibility), and emotional control. Teachers will be provided with thorough background information on each executive skill, as well as the implications for teaching and learning. Within each executive function, the course takes a deep dive into strategic focused interventions that help students who have these executive deficits. By the end of this course, teachers will feel more confident and successful in their quest to incorporate explicit, direct, and strategic instruction within reading, writing, and mathematics so their students with EF deficits can succeed academically and achieve a growth mindset.

Seeking approval for:

- _____ recertification/relicensure
- _____ personal and/or professional growth
- _____ district or state requirement

Signature

Date