

Frequently Asked Questions: Bilingual Mandarin

Q: Am I applying for a Bilingual Credential?

A: You are applying for a Bilingual **Authorization**. The Authorization is in addition to your Multiple or Single Subject Credential. That is why when you apply to the program you will either choose our Multiple Subject or Single Subject program.

Q: How will I demonstrate my Mandarin fluency?

A: You will demonstrate your Mandarin fluency by taking and passing CSET Mandarin-subtest II (test code 165). This must be passed **before** August 1st if you wish to pursue the Mandarin Authorization through our program. For more information about the Mandarin CSET and how to register, please click [here](#).

Q: Are there any additional course requirements for a Bilingual Authorization?

A: Yes, there are additional courses that satisfy state requirements for the Bilingual Authorization that you must complete during your Credential year. In addition, you must pass CSET Chinese subtest V (test code 253). For more information about the Chinese CSET and how to register, please click [here](#).

Q: What is the additional cost to get a Bilingual Authorization?

A: You will need to pass two CSET exams: CSET Mandarin subtest III (noted above) and CSET Chinese subtest V (geography, history, politics, and culture). Each subtest costs \$99*. UC Davis does not charge an additional fee for the bilingual course(s) as they are taken along with your regular credential coursework.

Q: Will I be placed in a bilingual student teaching setting during the Credential year?

A: Yes, you will be placed in a classroom setting to practice your Mandarin teaching skills. Multiple Subject candidates will be placed in a bilingual classroom for the long-term placement. Single Subject candidates must teach in a Mandarin setting during their short-term placement or for a minimum of 3 weeks, when possible.

Q: Does my Mandarin need to be perfect? Do I need to be a native Mandarin speaker?

A: You do not need perfect Mandarin (there is no such thing!) and you do not necessarily need to be a native speaker. There are many kinds of bilinguals and ways to learn Mandarin. However, you do need to have more than experience than just taking a couple of Mandarin classes would provide. If you can read, write, speak, and understand advanced Mandarin and communicate clearly, you may be eligible for a Bilingual Authorization.

***Please note: the CSET exam fees are waived as of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. Students will need to pay for the exams when they register but will receive a refund after taking the exam.**