

Frequently Asked Questions: Bilingual Spanish

Q: Am I applying for a Bilingual Credential?

A: *The State of California does not grant a Bilingual Credential; they grant a **Bilingual Authorization**. You are applying for a Bilingual **Authorization**. The Bilingual Authorization is added to a Multiple or Single Subject Credential and cannot be granted without a teaching credential. You must meet all the requirements of your regular credential in order have an authorization added to it.*

Q: How will I demonstrate my Spanish fluency?

A: *You will demonstrate your Spanish fluency via a series of three Spanish language formative exams before the start of the program. These assessments will help us determine your: (1) reading comprehension, (2) written and (3) oral proficiency in Spanish.*

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.*

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

A: *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 Spanish skills. Multiple Subject candidates will be placed in a bilingual classroom for the long-term placement. Single Subject Candidates must teach in a Spanish setting for a minimum of 3 weeks.*

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

A: *You do not need perfect Spanish (there is no such thing!) and you do not need to be a native speaker. There are many kinds of bilinguals. Some grew up speaking Spanish, but never studied it in school, while others learned Spanish living abroad or as Spanish majors in college. If you can read, write, speak, and understand advanced Spanish and communicate clearly, you may be eligible for a Bilingual Authorization.*