

**Lehman College**  
**The City University of New York Para “Bridge” Program**

*Lehman College offers a year-long, 2-course, NYCDOE-sponsored Para “Bridge” Program to support Childhood and Early Childhood school paraprofessionals currently employed by the NYC DOE beginning in the Spring 2020.*

As a participant, you will:

- Study children’s needs and development from culturally and linguistically perspective with a focus on disabilities.
- Learn, apply, and reflect on instructional and assessment strategies for supporting students with special needs.
- Be able to transfer the 6 credits to complete a graduate program leading to certification in either Childhood or Early Childhood Education Special Education stand alone or with a bilingual extension. Candidates may have an opportunity to enter a rigorous graduate program if they successfully complete the 6-credit sequence and meet other admission requirements.

**Benefits** of the Para Bridge Program:

- Free tuition and fees for 6-credit sequence\*
- Personalized Advisement- Each candidate will receive regular, personalized advisement from a Graduate Program advisor/mentor to ensure s/he meets program requirements and support for Lehman College School of Education Graduate School application process.
- Preparation to Teach Special Populations of Learners- The program is designed to support teachers who teach children with special needs.

\*Note: Tuition and fees will be paid by CUNY, however, textbooks for courses are not covered.

Program will include:

**Spring 2020**

- **EDS 743** Behavioral Assessment, Management, and Change (Early Childhood or Childhood)
- Workshops TBD

**Summer 2020**

- **EDS 701** Understanding Individuals with Disabilities (Early Childhood or Childhood)

**Documents needed to apply as a non matriculated graduate student:**

- Bachelor’s Degree
- GPA 2.75 or higher
- Unofficial transcripts [from all institutions of higher ed you have attended in the USA and outside the USA].
  1. The fastest way: order an e-transcript and have it sent to:  
[Graduate.Admissions@lehman.cuny.edu](mailto:Graduate.Admissions@lehman.cuny.edu)
  2. The next fastest way: order sealed, official paper transcripts and have them sent to YOU. Bring them in to Shuster 158 ASAP -- and UNOPENED (or they’ll no longer be official).
  3. Transcripts earned abroad **MUST** be **BOTH translated** AND **evaluated** by ONE of the companies approved by Admissions BEFORE the candidate can apply.
    - Candidates earning a B.A. from another country must also submit TOEFL scores.  
<http://www.lehman.cuny.edu/graduate-admissions/applying.php>

Proof of **US CITIZENSHIP** or legal immigration status **AND NYS RESIDENCE for at least 12 months** prior to the first day of class (e.g., a lease or deed dating back to August of last year if you plan to register for the fall.)

**Proof of NAME CHANGE** if your name changed since any of the transcripts was issued.

If you were born after 1957, evidence of having had the **Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) and Meningitis vaccines** (you can waive the latter only). See requirements and medical forms here: <http://www.lehman.edu/student-health-center/immunization-requirements.php>

If you attended highschool in another country, you need to take the **TOEFL Exam**.

Your application fee is waived per the agreement between the DOE and CUNY.

**First step:**

Contact Professor *Anne Marie Marshall* at [anne.m.marshall@gmail.com](mailto:anne.m.marshall@gmail.com) (Childhood Education) **and** Professor *Cecilia Espinosa* at [cecilia.espinosa@lehman.cuny.edu](mailto:cecilia.espinosa@lehman.cuny.edu) (Early Childhood Education).

Let us know **via email** of your interest in becoming a childhood **or** an early childhood non-matriculated graduate student in the ParaBridge Program (special education) and include the following information:

- First and last name
- Your undergraduate major and GPA (reminder, it must be at least 2.75)
- University and degree area
- Current place of work and grade level
- Which program are you interested in apply to?
  - Childhood Special Education
  - Early Childhood Special Education

**Second step:**

If you qualify you will receive an email from Dr. Marshall and Dr. Espinosa letting you know you have been accepted.

**Third step:**

You will receive an email asking you to bring Lehman College/CUNY SHUSTER Hall – Room 158 the application documents. Your contact person in the Office of Graduate Admissions is Ms. Rosa Ianuale. You can contact her at Rosa Ianuale ([rosa.ianuale@lehman.cuny.edu](mailto:rosa.ianuale@lehman.cuny.edu))

**Fourth step: To Apply**

- To create an account for ApplyYourself by clicking the link in the following:
- [https://app.applyyourself.com/AYApplicantLogin/fl\\_ApplicantConnectLogin.asp?id=lehmangrad](https://app.applyyourself.com/AYApplicantLogin/fl_ApplicantConnectLogin.asp?id=lehmangrad)
- Once you are registered with ApplyYourself, then click “Begin Application Here” and choose:
  - Application Type: Non Degree
  - Applying For: Para Bridge Program
  - For Term: Spring
  - For Year: 2020
- Submit all the documents stated above.
- You are not required to pay the application fee. The system will prompt you to pay but simply ignore the prompt.

**Application deadline: DECEMBER 1st, 2019**