I, Rizwana Khan, a CSUN alumni with a Multiple Subject Teaching Credential and Bachelors of Arts, 1999 have registered for Education Therapy in graduate program at CSUN for Fall 2020 to 2021. I dream of working to create a better world for the less fortunate and the underprivileged.

As I volunteered in a leadership role in the various organizations, I felt that further education in my field will help me contribute more to these organizations. The workshops that I designed and delivered at CARE Foundation and the internship program at Umeed School made me aware of my limitations. The mentorship and participation in the several institutions both private, non-profit and government institutions, helps me realize that I can achieve more if I’ve a Masters in Special Education.

Also, there has been an increase in Special education laws and as a teacher I’ve to be well aware of the implementation of the requirements as dedicated by the law. The children with special needs and the learning disorders are now being mainstreamed in the classroom. Also, Special education laws give children with disabilities and their parent’s important rights. Specifically, the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) gives families of special education children the right to: have their child assessed or tested to determine special education eligibility and needs. Therefore I have to be aware of the latest assessments and effective strategies.

Therefore, I felt that I need to learn new skills if I had to be competent teacher in my classroom. I believe that my post-graduate training in educational therapy will benefit adults and children suffering from disabilities, as well as, involve the communities that are actively trying to meet the learning and emotional needs of these students.

Further, the competencies added to experience in the schools will help me to excel in my profession. As a lead teacher, I mentor my teachers understand the learning process and an appreciation of the unique style of each child.  Thus, I will be able to with more confidence open up new opportunities and give me a sense of achievement to the children. Also, I feel that the leadership role will help me to contribute effectively in the society.

I plan to help the adults and children with special needs and learning disorders in the underprivileged communities who because of the lack of resources and awareness are unable to support their special needs. After gaining knowledge of the latest strategies from Education Therapy Master’s program, I would be in a position to provide support where it’s needed the most.

### With the generous contribution of the [MSP Pearl Simmons Scholarship Endowment](https://csun.academicworks.com/opportunities/1790), I am enthusiastic about both learning Education Therapy at CSUN and, also, having the chance to put this knowledge into practice under the acclaimed CSUN professors that in the future will help me address the challenges of students with special needs in any community of the world.