

TEACHER EDUCATION

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The Council on Teacher Education formulates, modifies, implements, and monitors compliance with policies related to the education of future educators. The Council also facilitates communication and promotes collaboration among all participants involved in the preparation and continuing professional development of educators. The Council is the designated unit responsible for the coordination of teacher, school support personnel, and administrator education curricula at the Urbana campus and serves as the liaison between the campus and state educator licensure and program approval authorities.

Six colleges and two schools of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign offer degree programs in teacher, school support personnel, and administrator education: the Colleges of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences; Applied Health Sciences; Education; Fine and Applied Arts; Liberal Arts and Sciences; and the Graduate College in addition to the School of Information Sciences and the School of Social Work. The list of educator preparation curricula can be found at the end of this section.

Candidates may consult their educator preparation advisers or the Council for additional information about academic regulations and other policies affecting educator preparation. Consult the Executive Director of the Council for information about the Grievance Policy and Procedures for Students Enrolled in Educator Preparation Programs under the purview of the Council on Teacher Education.

Licensure requirements are subject to change without notice as a result of new mandates from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) or the Illinois General Assembly.

Requirements

Admissions

Applicants to educator preparation programs must meet the admission requirements of the colleges and departments offering the chosen curricula. Council policy mandates candidates pass an ISBE approved test of basic skills before they may be admitted to an educator preparation program. Candidates may use an ACT or SAT score to meet the test of basic skills if it meets the ISBE requirements for substitution. See www.cote.illinois.edu/certification/documents/act_procedures_for_admission.pdf (http://www.cote.illinois.edu/certification/documents/act_procedures_for_admission.pdf) for information regarding specific requirements.

Applicants are advised that certain felony convictions, enumerated in Articles 10-21.9 and 21B-80 of the School Code of Illinois (<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=1005&ChapAct=105%C2%A0ILCS&160;5/&ChapterID=17&ChapterName=SCHOOLS&ActName=School+Code.html>), prohibit licensure or employment in public schools. Questions pertaining to this matter should be addressed to the Council.

Continuation in an Educator Preparation Program

To be eligible for continuation in an educator preparation program, candidates must satisfy all requirements of the applicable Common Assessment Plan (CAP), which includes maintaining University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and overall grade point averages of 2.5 (A = 4.0) or higher. In addition, candidates must meet the content area and professional education grade-point requirements specific to their programs. The full text of the three Common Assessment Plans is available on the Council website (<http://www.cote.illinois.edu/about/professional/cap.html>). The Council on Teacher Education reviews each candidate's academic progress after the fall and spring semesters. Candidates who do not meet the criteria of the appropriate CAP will receive a warning letter from the Council advising them that their continuation in the program, entry into student teaching, and receiving a recommendation for licensure from the University are at risk. Candidates will be directed to their college deans for more information. Candidates may be dropped from licensure programs by the Council if they fail to meet the criteria of the appropriate CAP after receiving an initial warning letter.

Teaching effectiveness is influenced not only by academic proficiency, but also by the dispositions and professional behaviors of the candidate. Therefore, faculty members take these characteristics into account as they evaluate candidates' progress in the program. Teaching effectiveness can also be influenced by the candidate's health. For this reason, the University provides counseling and medical services for all students. A candidate wishing additional information about these services may call or visit the Council office.

Because it is essential that counseling and medical services be offered as soon as the need becomes apparent, educator preparation advisers and faculty members are asked to recommend for assistance or examination any candidate about whom they feel concern. A candidate who is recommended for assistance or examination will receive a written request to make an appointment to discuss the situation. It is a requirement of the Council on Teacher Education that a candidate who receives such a request must respond. Failure to do so will jeopardize the candidate's continuation in their educator preparation program. During the appointment, the candidate will be informed of the counseling (<http://www.counselingcenter.illinois.edu>) and medical services (<http://www.mckinley.illinois.edu>) available at the University. The candidate's use of these services is usually optional. In exceptional cases, however, the Council may require a candidate to satisfactorily complete a mental health or physical examination with one of the campus services. Candidates who wish to continue in teacher education must comply with such referrals.

Student Teaching

State law mandates candidates pass the appropriate content area test prior to student teaching. Students who have not passed the appropriate content area test will not be permitted to student teach. Student teaching application forms are available in the college clinical experiences office that houses each program. (Candidates may obtain referrals to the appropriate office by contacting the Council.) A candidate seeking placement in student teaching should contact the appropriate program's clinical experiences office no later than October 1 of the academic year preceding the desired placement to determine departmental deadlines and meeting dates. Departments may set earlier deadlines. Candidates who apply after their departments' deadlines cannot be guaranteed a student teaching assignment during the next academic year. A candidate who will not be on campus during the fall semester, but who expects to enroll in educational practice (student teaching) during the next

school year, should secure an application form from his or her program's clinical experiences office before leaving campus. A candidate who has submitted an application will receive a student teaching assignment pending verification that he or she has completed all requirements of the appropriate Common Assessment Plan.

Only those candidates officially registered in teacher education curricula are eligible for student teaching placements. The Council reserves the right to deny student teaching placement to candidates who have not met all requirements of the appropriate Common Assessment Plan. Candidates may also be denied a student teaching placement for health reasons.

Candidates in teacher education should anticipate and plan for student teaching assignments. For most candidates, additional expense will be incurred during the semester in which student teaching is scheduled. Candidates cannot be guaranteed assignments in local schools. Student teaching is a full-time commitment on the part of teacher candidates. Teacher candidates should not plan to take additional coursework outside their program during student teaching, nor should they plan to be employed. School districts have the right to not accept a candidate and therefore, the Council cannot guarantee each candidate a placement.

However, each program will exhaust every effort to seek a placement for each candidate.

Candidates are expected to complete all field experiences, including student teaching, at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. A candidate who wishes to complete student teaching through another university, yet receive a University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign degree and recommendation for licensure, must secure the prior approval of his or her adviser, clinical experiences program coordinator, college, and the Council on Teacher Education via petition. The petition must be supported by verification from the other university that it will accept the candidate as a student teacher and will comply with all Council on Teacher Education requirements. Approvals of such arrangements are rare, and candidates should expect to incur additional costs. Consult the Council for additional information.

Teacher Licensure

A candidate who completes all of the coursework and other requirements in a program approved for purposes of licensure by the Illinois State Board of Education is entitled to receive the recommendation of the University for the appropriate license and endorsement(s), provided the candidate has met all of the requirements of the appropriate Common Assessment Plan and has passed all licensure tests and assessments required by the State of Illinois. In addition, all professional education and content-area coursework that forms part of an application for licensure, endorsement, or approval must have been passed with a grade no lower than "C" or equivalent in order to be counted towards fulfillment of the applicable requirements. CR/NC and proficiency credit may not be used toward licensure, endorsement, or approvals. However, AP credit may be used.

In some instances a candidate may be denied a recommendation for licensure but be granted a degree by his or her college. A candidate who believes that the recommendation for licensure has been withheld unjustly may seek redress through the grievance policy established by the Council on Teacher Education.

General Education

Candidates for licensure are required to complete coursework that includes the theoretical and practical understanding generally expected of a liberally educated person. General education includes developing

knowledge related to the arts, communications, history, literature, mathematics, philosophy, sciences, and the social studies from multicultural and global perspectives. This requirement is satisfied by the University of Illinois general education pattern incorporated into all undergraduate teacher education programs.

Licensure Tests

All candidates for licensure as teachers, school administrators, and school support personnel must pass tests mandated by the Illinois State Board of Education as a condition for licensure. Illinois law requires that applicants to all educator preparation programs pass a test in basic skills (reading, writing, grammar, and mathematics) and a separate test in their major area. All candidates in programs leading to teaching must also pass a teacher performance assessment (edTPA). Candidates for Learning Behavior Specialist I licensure must pass a fourth test: Special Education General Curriculum.

State law requires prospective candidates for licensure as school administrators or school support personnel pass a test of basic skills, as determined by the State, if the Illinois Test of Basic Skills was not passed previously. If the basic skill tests was not already taken and passed, the Test of Academic Proficiency must be passed prior to admission to the educator preparation program. In addition, candidates must pass the appropriate content-area test. Candidates may use an ACT or SAT score to meet the test of basic skills if it meets the ISBE requirements for substitution. See www.cote.illinois.edu/certification/documents/act_procedures_for_admission.pdf (http://www.cote.illinois.edu/certification/documents/act_procedures_for_admission.pdf) for information regarding specific requirements.

Time Limit on Licensure

Because licensure requirements are subject to change at any time as a result of new mandates from the Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois General Assembly, the University is unable to guarantee a recommendation for licensure to anyone who does not apply for licensure immediately upon completion of licensure requirements. A candidate completing an approved program is strongly encouraged to apply for licensure during his or her last term on campus and claim said license on the Educator Licensure Information System (ELIS) once it has been entitled. Applications for licensure are available on the candidate's student portal or in the Council office. Failure to claim a license through the Educator Licensure Information System once it has been entitled could result in additional requirements should candidate seek to claim license at a later date.

Background Investigation of Applicants for Field Placement and Employment

State law mandates that all candidates for public school licensure in programs under the purview of the Council on Teacher Education complete a criminal background check and checks of the Statewide Sex Offender Database and Statewide Child Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Database before they may be placed in schools. Candidates are responsible for all fees connected with this procedure.

Final decisions regarding the placement of candidates in schools are made in agreement between the relevant department/college/program and the school/district.

The criminal background check is typically conducted at the time a candidate enters the program and before student teaching or internship.

Each applicant for employment, which includes student teaching, in an Illinois school district is required to authorize the employing school district to initiate a criminal background check which will include a request for fingerprints. A school district may employ a person, or host a student teacher, only after a background check has been initiated and may not knowingly employ a person, or host a student teacher, who has been convicted of a felony or of attempting to commit certain offenses enumerated in The School Code of Illinois. This criminal background check is in addition to that required for field placements at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Curricula

A candidate seeking licensure must complete the requirements of both his or her chosen curriculum, Council on Teacher Education requirements, and all additional State mandated requirements. Teacher education, school support personnel, and administrator curricula and the colleges and departments that offer them are listed below. All curricula have been approved by the Illinois State Board of Education.

Candidates are advised that licensure requirements may be altered at any time by the Illinois State Board of Education or the legislature. In such cases, candidates may be compelled to satisfy the new requirements to qualify for the University's recommendation for licensure.

College of Agriculture, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/aces>)

- Agricultural Education¹

College of Applied Health Sciences (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/ahs>)

- Physical Education¹

College of Education (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/education>)

- Early Childhood Education, Birth - Grade 2 (Includes Early Childhood Special Education Approval)⁴
- Elementary Education, Grades 1-6²
- Learning Behavior Specialist I¹
- Teacher Education Minor in Secondary School Teaching²

College of Fine and Applied Arts (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/faa>)

- Music Education¹
- Visual Arts Education¹

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las>)

- English Language Arts
- Foreign Language: Chinese (Mandarin)¹
- Foreign Language: French¹
- Foreign Language: German¹
- Foreign Language: Latin¹
- Foreign Language: Spanish¹
- Mathematics
- Science: Biology
- Science: Chemistry

- Science: Earth and Space Science
- Science: Physics
- Social Science: History

Graduate College

Graduate-level licensure programs are offered in the areas listed below. For additional information, contact the Council on Teacher Education or departmental office indicated.

Agricultural Education¹

- College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Science Office of Academic Programs

Director of Special Education

- Department of Special Education

Early Childhood Education⁴

- Department of Curriculum and Instruction

Elementary Education²

- Department of Curriculum and Instruction

Foreign Language: Latin¹

- Department of Classics

Foreign Language: Spanish¹

- Department of Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese

Learning Behavior Specialist I¹

- Department of Special Education

Learning Behavior Specialist II¹

- (Options: Curriculum Adaptation, Behavior Interventions, Multiple Disabilities, Transition Specialist)
- Department of Special Education

Library Information Specialist¹

- Graduate School of Library and Information Science

Music¹

- School of Music

Principal

- Department of Education Policy, Organization and Leadership

Reading Specialist

- Department of Curriculum and Instruction

School Social Worker

- School of Social Work

Secondary Education (English Language Arts, Mathematics, Sciences, Social Science: History)³

- Department of Curriculum and Instruction

Speech-Language Pathologist: Non-teaching

- Department of Speech and Hearing Science

Superintendent⁵

- Department of Education Policy, Organization and Leadership

Teacher Leader

- Department of Education Policy, Organization and Leadership

- ¹ Individuals completing these programs who wish to be able to teach departmentalized subjects in grades five through eight must complete additional coursework and receive the endorsement prior to January 1, 2018. Contact the Council on Teacher Education for additional information.
- ² Individuals who entered the Elementary Education program Fall 2014 or after will be entitled for grades 1-6 upon completion of all requirements. Individuals who were admitted Fall 2013 or before will be entitled for K-9 upon completion of all requirements if their program is completed by September 1, 2018 and a license is claimed prior to September 1, 2019. Candidates in this category who wish to be able to teach departmentalized subjects in grades five through eight must complete additional coursework and receive the endorsement prior to January 1, 2018. Contact the Council on Teacher Education for additional information.
- ³ This minor is a required component of the teaching option within the following Science and Letters majors in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences: biology, chemistry, English, geology, history, mathematics, and physics. It is available only to students registered in these programs.
- ⁴ Per State rules, no candidates may be admitted into this program on or after September 1, 2017. Individuals entering this program must complete program no later than August 31, 2019.
- ⁵ Per State rules, no candidate may be admitted into this program on or after September 1, 2016.

Teacher Education Minors

- English as a second language (must be able to obtain ESL endorsement no later than August 31, 2018 as requirements are changing.)
- Mathematics: Grades 9-12

Candidates should be aware that the state recognizes teaching fields that are not listed above. Candidates may obtain subsequent teaching endorsements for any fields for which they satisfy the state minimum requirements. Contact the Council on Teacher Education for additional information regarding the endorsement fields available and the qualifications for each. Endorsement requirements (<http://www.cote.illinois.edu/certification/Endorsements.html>) are also listed on the Council on Teacher Education Web site. (<http://cote.illinois.edu>) Further questions may be directed to the Council on Teacher Education.