

University-Wide Teacher Education

Chair, Council for Teacher Education:

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Realizing the Democratic Ideal: Teacher Education at Illinois State University

Illinois State University has a historic and enduring commitment to prepare teachers and other school personnel who will be responsive to the ethical and intellectual demands of a democratic society. To teach in a democracy is self-consciously to take up the challenge of improving the ethical and intellectual quality of our societal dialogue by including in it as many educated voices as possible.

The democratic ideal unites caring and knowing: the more voices we call into thoughtful dialogue, and the less fettered the mutual exchange among those voices becomes, the truer our convictions and conclusions will be. This is the foundation of a democratic society, and it is why Illinois State graduates aspire to teach everyone, especially those on the margins, those who have been or are in danger of being excluded.

This democratic conception of education informs all aspects of teacher education at Illinois State University. Graduates who are ready to meet the challenges and rewards of serving students in a democratic society embody the ethical and intellectual commitments of teaching and learning in order to realize the democratic ideal.

The ethical commitments are:

- Sensitivity toward the varieties of individual and cultural diversity
- Disposition and ability to collaborate effectively with others
- High regard for learning and seriousness of personal, professional, and public purpose
- Respect for learners of all ages, with special regard for children and adolescents.

The intellectual commitments are:

- Wide general knowledge and deep knowledge of the content to be taught
- Knowledge and appreciation of the diversity among learners
- Understanding of the factors that affect learning and appropriate teaching strategies
- Interest in and ability to seek out informational, technological, and collegial resources
- Contagious intellectual enthusiasm and courage enough to be creative.

Performance-Based Assessment System

Effective Fall 2002, the Council for Teacher Education implemented the Teacher Education Performance-Based

Assessment System (PBA). This system meets accreditation standards, as stipulated by the Illinois State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board (ISEPLB) and the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

The performance-based assessment system is reviewed by the University Teacher Education Assessment Committee, which reports to the Council for Teacher Education. The Council for Teacher Education approves changes to the system.

The Performance Based Assessment system (PBA) establishes critical points at which candidates for teacher licensure will be assessed through three gateways:

Gateway 1: Admission to Professional Studies

- Teacher Education Orientation Workshop (PBA)
- ePortfolio Fundamentals Workshop (LiveText)
- Criminal Background Check(s) - All teacher candidates will be required to complete an annual Illinois State Police Fingerprint Criminal Background Check for Illinois State University. Results of this Criminal Background Check (CBC) must be submitted and on file in the Cecilia J. Lauby Teacher Education Center (DeGarmo Hall 56). Additionally, the schools in which the teacher candidate will complete their clinical experiences and student teaching assignment(s) will require their own criminal background check be completed.
- Criminal History Check (Assessment of Legal and Ethical Conduct form)
- Major and cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher
- Communication 110 with a grade of C or better
- English 101 with a grade of C or better
- 30 hours of coursework
- Safety Education Assessment
- Mandatory Reporter of Child Abuse Training
- Disposition Concerns Assessment
- Communication Concerns Assessment
- Department approval—given by advisors
- Early Childhood Education Majors only - TB Test

Gateway 2: Admission to Student Teaching

- Meet Gateway 1 requirements prior to beginning Gateway 2
- Major and cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher
- ISBE State Content Test
- TB Test
- Clinical Experience Hours
- Disposition Concerns Assessments
- Communication Concerns Assessments
- Department approval
- Verified by the Teacher Education Center the semester prior to student teaching:
 - The Illinois Sexual Offender Registry
 - Clear Violence Against Youth Registry
- Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI—for Foreign Language Students only.

- Test of Academic Proficiency or SAT/ACT

Gateway 3: Exit from Student Teaching

- All education majors must meet the listed requirements in order to graduate and be recommended for licensure
- Student Teaching (with a grade of C or better)
- 50 clinical hours in diverse setting
- Disposition Concerns Assessments
- Communication Concerns Assessments
- Successful completion of the edTPA

The PBA system ensures that candidates possess the knowledge, skills, performances, and dispositions requisite for successful teaching careers. When Illinois State University recommends a candidate for teacher licensure, the entire university has participated in the preparation of that teacher.

Teacher candidates will be required to attend a workshop on this performance-based assessment early in their education program. At this workshop students will be provided with the information necessary to understand the requirements and how to monitor their progress. Failure to complete certain indicators at required times could delay progress in the intended major. Details regarding the performance-based system can be found at: education.illinoisstate.edu/teacher/gateways/orientation, the Teacher Education (PBA) Orientation Workshop website.

The Council for Teacher Education reserves the right to modify performance assessment indicators in response to state and national accreditation mandates to reflect current practice in the teaching profession. Teacher candidates should consult with their program advisors for specific requirements for their major on a regular basis.

Teacher Education Programs Approved by the Illinois State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board (ISEPLB)

The following is a list of education programs offered by Illinois State University which may lead to licensure.

For specific courses and program details, please consult the following website: <https://education.illinoisstate.edu/academics/majors/>

- Agriculture
- Art
- Business Education
- Dance Education
- Early Childhood Education
- Elementary Education
- English Language Arts
- French
- Family and Consumer Science
- German
- School Health Education
- Mathematics
- Middle Level Education
- Music

- Physical Education
- Science: Biology
- Science: Chemistry
- Science: Earth and Space
- Science: Physics
- Social Science: Geography
- Social Science: History
- Spanish
- Special Education: Specialist in Learning Behavior, Specialist in Low Vision and Blindness, Specialist in Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Technology and Engineering Education
- Theatre

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) grants teacher/school licenses in the State of Illinois. All teacher candidates who successfully complete an approved teacher education program at Illinois State University, pass appropriate licensure exams, and meet ISBE requirements will be recommended for licensure. This does not lead to licensure in other states. Teacher candidates are responsible for checking the requirements of the state in question.

NOTE: Endorsements are available at the graduate level for Chief School Business Official, Learning Behavior Specialist II, Library Information Specialist, Principal, Reading Specialist, School Psychologist, School Social Worker, Speech and Language Pathologist, and Superintendent.

Each student who completes a bachelor's degree program in an approved Teacher Education program, and who is recommended for licensure by the licensure officer at Illinois State University as having completed all requirements (General Education, Professional Education, field of study or area of specialization, and general teacher education requirements, and all other applicable degree requirements), is recommended for a teaching license in the State of Illinois. The Evaluations Office at Illinois State University will notify students as to the correct procedures for applying for the appropriate Illinois teaching license. In order to satisfy Illinois licensure requirements and Illinois State University's Gateway System requirements, all candidates must pass a test of basic skills (reading, writing, language arts, and mathematics), a subject matter knowledge test, and the edTPA, which are administered by the Illinois State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board. Effective September 1, 2015, students will be assessed using the edTPA on teacher effectiveness and each candidate must complete and pass the edTPA as required by Illinois law (105ILCS5/21B-30(f)). Additional tests may be required for select licensure programs and additional endorsements.

Students who have already completed one or more non-teaching degrees and now seek admission to a teacher education program are advised to seek admission to the University as a candidate for a second bachelor's degree. Subsequent transcript analysis may determine that a second degree is not required. In this instance, the student will be allowed to complete the requirements for licensure without completing the requirements of the second bachelor's degree.

Students who complete a bachelor's degree program in Teacher Education at Illinois State University have their transcripts stamped "Student has completed a state and NCATE approved program in Teacher Education." (NCATE is the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education.) This statement indicates that the program has received state approval and national accreditation. This status usually makes it easier to obtain a teaching license in another state.

General Education

As part of the entitlement program, the Illinois State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board will accept the same general education requirements for licensure as are accepted for graduation from that university.

Endorsements

The minimum requirements for all teaching fields and all endorsements are defined by the State of Illinois. One or more endorsements may be earned along with the completion of the teaching major by taking additional courses and a possible state test. Students should contact an advisor for information on requirements for endorsements.

Council for Teacher Education

The Council for Teacher Education is responsible for developing requirements for Teacher Education and for providing avenues of communication among all of the areas of the University concerned with teacher education.

Time Limit on Teacher Education Courses

In order to provide teacher candidates with current information and meet required standards, all undergraduate teacher education courses have a longevity of seven (7) years. Any teacher education program reserves the right not to accept any course older than seven years to fulfill the requirements of their program. If a course has been taken beyond a seven year period, the course may not count towards the education degree.

Dismissal from Programs

Teacher candidates who fail to comply with teacher education requirements may be dismissed. At the option of the department or school, teacher candidates dropped from the program may pursue a degree in their non-teaching major or be classified "undeclared."

If a student is dismissed from a teacher education program they have a right to appeal this decision to the Council for Teacher Education. The appeal process is outlined under the heading "Rights and Responsibilities" on the website: <https://education.illinoisstate.edu/teacher/clinical/rights.php>

NOTE: Teacher candidates convicted of certain types of crimes may not be approved for licensure by the Illinois State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board.

Clinical Experiences in Teacher Education

A variety of clinical (pre-student teaching) experiences, as well as student teaching, are included in the teacher candidates professional preparation. Observations, small and large group instruction, tutoring, field experiences, and student teaching are included in the Clinical Experiences Pro-gram. The experiences offered prior to student teaching are integral parts of specific college courses. Clinical experiences are provided in off-campus professional development schools, local schools, campus laboratory schools, agencies and other approved non-school settings. The Cecilia J. Lauby Teacher Education Center monitors and documents all clinical experiences. Teacher candidates will show verification of having completed clinical experiences commensurate with attaining local, state, and national standards. Teacher candidates must provide their own transportation to clinical experiences sites.

Candidates are required to provide documentation of meeting all State of Illinois, district, and university requirements in regard to criminal background checks BEFORE beginning any clinical experiences. Criminal background checks must remain current as of the last day of the clinical experience. Candidates should consult with clinical course faculty and the Cecilia J. Lauby Teacher Education Center well in advance of clinical experiences to determine specific requirements needed each semester.

The approximate number of clinical hours may be found with the appropriate course description in this *Undergraduate Catalog*. The following legend relates to the type and kind of activity related to a specific course.

Clinical Experiences Legend

- Observation (including field trips)
- Tutoring one-on-one contact
- Non-instructional assisting
- Small group instruction
- Whole class instruction
- Work with clinic client(s)
- Graduate practicum
- Professional meeting

Every program has a required set of clinical hours which will be completed in conjunction with specific courses. Of these pre-student teaching clinical hours, 50 hours must be in a diverse setting. Prior to beginning any clinical experience and student teaching, every teacher candidate must complete an annual Illinois State Police Fingerprint Criminal Background Check for Illinois State University. Results of this Criminal Background Check (CBC) must be submitted and on file in the Cecilia J. Lauby Teacher Education Center (56 DeGarmo Hall). Additionally, the schools in which the teacher candidate will complete their clinical experiences and student teaching assignment(s) may require their own criminal background check be completed.

Refer to the following website for details concerning diverse hours: <https://education.illinoisstate.edu/teacher/clinical/diverse.php/>

Student Teaching Requirements

During the student teaching semester the teacher candidate will be involved with directing the learning of pupils, participating in school and community activities, and assuming full responsibility for a group of learners supervised by a cooperating teacher. Student teaching assignments are made on the basis of the teacher candidate's area of specialization. The number of semester hours required for student teaching varies with the teacher candidate's program of study. The student teaching assignment is completed in the candidate's major field of study and is the culminating experience in the teacher education program.

The following requirements must be met prior to participation in student teaching.

1. Approval for student teaching by the Director of The Cecilia J. Lauby Teacher Education Center. This approval will include verification of all of the following:
 - a. Completion of pre-student teaching clinical experiences commensurate with the local, state, and national standards;
 - b. An application for student teaching filed in The Cecilia J. Lauby Teacher Education Center at least 6 months prior to the planned student teaching semester;
 - c. Satisfactory completion of prerequisite courses to STT 399. (See University-wide courses);
 - d. Meeting all requirements for Admission to Professional Studies (Gateway 1) and Admission to Student Teaching (Gateway 2) as stated in the Performance-based Assessment System. All requirements for Admission to Student Teaching must be met by December 15 for student teaching during the spring semester and by July 15 for student teaching during the fall semester.
2. Approval for student teaching by the candidate's major department chairperson or school director or designee. This approval may be based on the following criteria that the teacher candidate:
 - a. has demonstrated content knowledge in the student's major area of study;
 - b. has a grade of C or better in all major coursework and all professional education coursework;
 - c. has completed a minimum of 15 semester hours at Illinois State University;
 - d. possesses professional knowledge necessary for performing teaching responsibilities;
 - e. has performed at an acceptable level during the pre-student teaching clinical experiences;
 - f. shows evidence of professional characteristics and interpersonal skills necessary for working with children and youth; and
 - g. has completed all other departmental or school requirements, including a minimum major GPA (see major department or school for additional requirements).

Student Teaching Assignments

The University will assign student teachers to selected schools or professional development schools (PDS) in Illinois during regular semesters. Personnel of The Cecilia J. Lauby Teacher Education Center, in cooperation with the major department or school, secure the student teaching placement(s). Teacher candidates may not self-place and are responsible for their own living arrangements and transportation to and from the student teaching location. Student teachers are assigned only to classrooms that have regularly employed full time and fully qualified teachers. Assignments are not made to a school in which the teacher candidate or a family member is currently or has been employed. A student teacher may not receive a salary or an income for student teaching.

During the student teaching semester, the teacher candidate works with one or more cooperating teachers who are responsible for teaching a specific group or groups of pupils. These cooperating teachers, along with the University supervisors, have responsibility for guiding and evaluating the work of the student teachers. During this experience, the student teacher becomes a member of the school staff and the community in which he or she is working. Any student teacher who is unable to continue their student teaching assignment should consult with the Director of the Cecilia J. Lauby Teacher Education Center immediately. Any student with a disability who needs a reasonable accommodation to complete their student teaching assignment should contact the Office of Student Access and Accommodation Services as soon as possible at 350 Fell Hall, (309) 438-5853, or visit the website at <https://studentaccess.illinoisstate.edu>

The Director of The Cecilia J. Lauby Teacher Education Center, upon the recommendation of the college supervisor, chairperson or director of the student's major department or school administrator, may remove a student from the assignment. A student teacher may be required to do additional coursework, engage in remedial activities, and/or complete an extended or additional student teaching experience until the candidate is sufficiently competent to be recommended for licensure.

Student teaching assignments begin and end on the dates indicated on the student teacher's official notice of assignment. The student teacher is expected to follow the calendar of the school in which they are completing their student teaching assignment including vacations and school holidays. Changes in dates involved in an assignment must receive prior permission of the Director of The Cecilia J. Lauby Teacher Education Center.

To be recommended for licensure, a teacher education candidate must earn a grade of C or better in student teaching in order to meet all requirements for Gateway III: Exit from Student Teaching.

Graduation Requirement for All Teacher Education Majors

All teacher candidates must graduate with a minimum cumulative and major GPA of 2.50.

Licensure for Persons Who Have Been Convicted of a Crime

Entitlement for licensure is not an automatic procedure. The Undergraduate Evaluation Office will notify the Illinois State Board of Education when an Illinois State University candidate has completed all major degree requirements and all requirements identified in the Performance-Based Assessment System for all teacher education candidates. The Illinois State Board of Education makes the final decision in awarding of a teaching license. Additional considerations may preclude Illinois licensure.

If the answer to any of the statements below is “yes,” the teacher candidate may not be eligible for licensure in the State of Illinois. All statements refer to offenses in Illinois or any other state.

1. Have you ever had a teaching license or certificate denied, suspended or revoked in any state or country?
2. Have you failed to file a tax return with the Illinois Department of Revenue, or failed to pay any tax, penalty, or interest owed or any final assessment of same for any tax as required by law administered by that Department that was not subsequently resolved to the Department’s satisfaction?
3. Have you ever been indicted as a perpetrator of child abuse or neglect by a state agency responsible for child welfare?
4. Are you in default on an Illinois student loan for which you have failed to establish a satisfactory repayment plan with the Illinois Student Assistance Commission?
5. Do you have a child support order and/or are more than 30 days delinquent in complying with a child support order?
6. Have you ever been convicted of any of the following:
 - a. Felony
 - b. Sex Offense
 - c. Drug or narcotic offense
 - d. Any other criminal offense in any state or federal court (other than minor traffic violations)

If the teacher candidate answered “yes” to any of the above, he or she must contact the Director of The Cecilia J. Lauby Teacher Education Center, 56 DeGarmo Hall, prior to application for Admission to Professional Studies.

Complaints Regarding Teacher Education Matters

For information on how to appeal department, college or university decisions regarding admission, retention, evaluation, and licensure relative to Teacher Education, please review the procedures found on the following website and contact the Director of the Cecilia J. Lauby Teacher Education Center, 56 DeGarmo Hall: education.illinoisstate.edu/teacher/clinical/appeals

All teacher education appeals will be reviewed by the Teacher Education Review Board/Council for Teacher Education.

Information about Student Teaching Courses (STT)

All STT Courses:

<https://coursefinder.illinoisstate.edu/directory/stt/>

399 Student Teaching

1-16 sem. hrs.

Directing the learning of pupils; participating in school and community activities; assuming full responsibility for a group of learners supervised by a cooperating teacher. Student teaching assignments are made on the basis of the teacher candidate’s area of specialization. The teacher candidate’s transcript indicates the area in which student teaching was completed. Multiple enrollments are allowed.

Prerequisites for Student Teaching include: a minimum cumulative and major GPA which is established by each department or school, approval of department chair or school director, approval of the Director of The Cecilia J. Lauby Teacher Education Center, fifteen hours of coursework or equivalent at Illinois State, a grade of C or better in all major coursework, a grade of C or better in all professional coursework, completion of the second gateway Admission to Student Teaching which is part of the performance-based assessment system. All requirements for “Admission to Student Teaching” must be met by December 15th for student teaching during the spring semester and by July 15th for student teaching during the fall semester.

Other requirements as listed in the University-Wide Teacher Education section of this Undergraduate Catalog, including but not limited to: Gateway 3-Exit from Student Teaching:

- All education majors must meet the listed requirements in order to graduate and be recommended for licensure
- Student Teaching (grade of C or better)
- 50 Clinical Hours in a diverse setting
- Disposition/Communication Concerns Assessments
- Successful completion of the edTPA

Effective September 1, 2015 student teachers are assessed using the edTPA on teacher effectiveness and each candidate must complete and pass the edTPA as required by Illinois law (105ILCS5/21B-30(f)). Additional tests may be required for select licensure programs and additional endorsements.