

Teacher Education

FOR GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Division: Teacher Education
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College: Professional Studies

Graduate Teacher Education Programs

There are a variety of teacher education programs offered at the master's level. These programs are available for students who have a bachelor's degree that prepared them to teach in the state of Florida and for students without such preparation.

Graduate Programs of Study

- Elementary Education
- Exceptional Student Education
- Middle Level Education
- Secondary Education

Admission to Teacher Education/Graduate

Admission to graduate programs in Teacher Education is provisional. Provisional admission allows the unit to carefully monitor student progress through the teacher education program. Careful monitoring will ensure that academic and/or social skills deficits of preservice teachers can be identified in a timely manner so that appropriate interventions can be implemented. All students must take and pass the Florida Teacher Certification Examination (General Knowledge, Professional, Subject Area, and CLAST Examinations) and be recommended by their major department before they will be placed for student teaching. Full admission to teacher education will be achieved by passing the tests and being certified in good standing in the college.

All students must complete the provisional admission to teacher education process as listed below by the end of the first semester of attendance at UWF. Those students who do not complete the provisional admission process by the end of the first semester may be denied further registration and an enrollment hold will be placed on any future enrollment in education courses. The hold may be removed when the student completes the admission process. Students must also maintain these standards to ensure the continuation of provisional admission and continued registration. Students who fail to meet these standards may be removed from teacher education.

Requirements for teacher education programs may change due to legislative mandates. Therefore, the actual program requirements may differ from those listed in the *Catalog*. Candidates must inquire with the Chair of the Division of Teacher Education to obtain the most current program requirements.

Candidates seeking initial certification will be admitted to Teacher Education when they meet all the following requirements:

- A. All students are required to submit acceptable scores on the GRE. Although applicants may be admitted to some graduate programs on the basis of their GPA, GRE scores are nevertheless required for admission to Teacher Education.
- B. Prospective candidates for Teacher Education must meet one of the following three criteria:

1. have earned a minimum 3.0 GPA in the last 60 semester hours of course work attempted in earning the bachelor's degree

or

2. submit an acceptable GRE score; a minimum score of 1000 on the combined verbal and quantitative portions of the general aptitude test of the GRE is required if the undergraduate GPA is below 3.0.

or

3. have earned a graduate degree from an accredited institution.

C. All students are required to take and pass all sections of the College Level Academic Skills Test (CLAST) regardless of whether they may have exempted by alternative means one or more portions of the CLAST. In lieu of CLAST scores, students may present acceptable scores on the Professional Assessments for Beginning Teachers (PRAXIS) AI: Academic Skills Test or a combined quantitative and verbal Graduate Record Exam (GRE) score of 1000.

D. Submit two letters of recommendation, one from a person in a position to speak regarding the student's academic potential and one from a person in a position to speak regarding professional experience (e.g., employer, principal, supervising teacher, etc.).

E. At the time of application to the graduate program, all students are required to submit a letter of intent, stating why they want to be in a master's program, how their degree will enhance their future, and how they see themselves as a professional in five years.

F. All students must submit a Student Affidavit during their first semester enrolled in Teacher Education courses at the University.

G. All students in initial certification programs will demonstrate satisfactory completion of Florida's Teacher Development Portfolio that is based on Florida's Educator Accomplished Practices at the professional level.

Graduate candidates seeking initial certification will be admitted to Teacher Education when they meet all the requirements listed above.

Readmission to Teacher Education

Readmission into a Teacher Education program requires the student to meet standards for National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education and the Florida Department of Education program approval requirements. NCATE and FDOE reviews are conducted every five years.

Therefore, readmitted students will be required to:

A. complete the degree plan in effect at the time of readmission; and

B. meet the requirements for admission to Teacher Education in effect at the time of readmission.

Course work completed prior to readmission will be reviewed for compliance with current NCATE and FDOE requirements. Students will be required to retake courses not in compliance with these requirements.