



## STEPS FOR ADMISSION TO THE UNDERGRADUATE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Teacher Education Program is overseen by the Center of Pedagogy. The purpose of this guide is to provide a general overview of the steps involved when preparing to apply to the Teacher Education Program. Students should apply for admission to the Program during the second semester of the sophomore year or first semester of the junior year. Students must successfully complete the prerequisite requirements prior to applying.

### 1. Choosing a Major and Planning Your Course of Study

Students in **subject area certification programs** (everything except Early Childhood and Elementary) work toward certification that is valid for grades P-12. Dance, Art, Music, and Physical Education/Health students may wish to teach in any of these grade levels, but students in the other subject areas (e.g., English, Social Studies) usually intend to teach a specific subject in grades 5 or higher.

Students in the **Early Childhood Program** work towards certification for Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 3 (P-3). Students in the **Elementary Program** work towards certification for grades Kindergarten through Grade 5 (K-5). Early Childhood and Elementary candidates usually intend to teach all or most academic subjects for one class of students.

Students in **the Dual Degree Dual Certification Inclusive Education Program (DDDC)** work towards certification in a content area (P-3, K-5, or subject area) AND Teacher of Students with Disabilities. Students in this 5-year program earn a Bachelor's degree in the major and a Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT).

The chart below shows the accepted majors and minimum overall and major GPA requirements for each undergraduate initial teacher certification program offered at MSU.

<b>CERTIFICATION PROGRAM</b>	<b>ACCEPTED MAJORS</b>	<b>OVERALL GPA</b>	<b>MAJOR GPA</b>
Early Childhood (P-3)	Family and Child Studies – Families, Children, & School Settings	3.0	3.0
Elementary (K-5)	Anthropology, English, General Humanities, History, Philosophy, Psychology, Religion, Sociology, Spanish OR Family & Child Studies: Families, Children, & School Settings	3.0	3.0
Biological Science	Biology	3.0	2.75
Chemistry*	Chemistry	3.0	2.75
Dance	Dance Education	3.0	3.0
Earth Science	Geoscience	3.0	2.75
English	English	3.0	3.25
English as a 2 <sup>nd</sup> Language	Linguistics	3.0	3.0
Fine Arts	Fine Arts Education	3.0	3.0
French	French	3.0	3.0
Italian	Italian	3.0	3.0
Latin	Latin	3.0	3.0
Mathematics	Mathematics	3.0	2.75
Music	Music Education	3.0	3.0
Physical Education & Health	Physical Education	3.0	3.0
Physics**	Physics	3.0	2.75
Physical Science***	Chemistry or Physics	3.0	2.75
Social Studies	Anthropology, Economics, Geography, History, Political Science, Psychology, or Sociology	3.0	3.25
Spanish	Spanish	3.0	3.0
Dual Degree/ Dual Certification Inclusive Education Program (DDDC)	All Majors	3.25	3.25

\* Holders of Chemistry certification can teach chemistry, environmental science, & general science.

\*\* Holders of Physics certification can teach physics, environmental science, and general science.

\*\*\* Holders of Physical Science certification can teach physics, chemistry, physical, environmental, general, earth, & space science.

## 2. Successfully Completing Prerequisite Courses

If you plan to apply for a **subject area program** (everything except Early Childhood and Elementary), first you must **successfully complete (B- or better)** the following courses:

EDFD 200	Psychological Foundations of Education (satisfies Gen Ed K3 Social Science)
EDFD 220	Philosophical Orientation to Education (satisfies Gen Ed F2 Philosophy/Religion)
EDFD 221	Historical Foundations of American Education (satisfies Gen Ed K1 Amer/Eur Hist)
CURR 210	Public Purposes of Education: Democracy and Schooling (satisfies L Gen Ed elective; must have sophomore status or higher)

In addition, you must also successfully complete **9 credits of major courses from your department**.

**Math majors** must have completed 11 credits including Calculus I and II and an additional course that requires Calculus II as a prerequisite.

If you plan to apply for the **Early Childhood (P-3) or Elementary (K-5) Program**, first you must **successfully complete (B- or better)** the following courses:

PSYC 101	General Psychology (satisfies Gen Ed K3 Social Science)
CMST 101	Fundamentals of Speech (satisfies Gen Ed C2 Communication)
ECEL 200	Perspectives in Early Childhood & Elementary Education in a Democracy (satisfies L Gen Ed elective; must be sophomore status or higher)
FCST 214	Child Development I (prerequisite PSYC101)

In addition, you also must successfully complete **9 credits of major courses from your department**.

**Family & Child Studies majors** must successfully complete 6 credits of major courses as well as FCST 214.

**K-5 and P-3 Applicants:** It is expected that you will have at least **two courses in each of the four content areas** taught in a pre-school or elementary setting: **Math, Science, Social Studies, and English**. Therefore, all K-5/P-3 applicants must complete at least two courses with a grade of B or higher in each content area. If you do not have two courses in an area, or the required grade, register for appropriate courses to meet this requirement prior to applying to the Teacher Education Program.

If you plan to apply to the **Dual Degree Dual Certification Program (DDDC)**, first you must **complete** the following courses with a grade of B or better:

- If Subject Certification: EDFD 200, EDFD 220, EDFD 221, CURR 210
- If P-3 or K-5 certification: PSYC 101, CMST 101, ECEL 200, FCST 214, EDFD 220

In addition, you must complete 9 credits in your major with 3.25 GPA (**Math majors** must have completed 11 credits including Calculus I and II and an additional course that requires Calculus II as a prerequisite.)

Applications for the Dual Degree Dual Certification program are **only accepted in the spring semester. The deadline to apply is the fourth Monday in January.**

**\*\*\*\*Transfer Exception\*\*\*\***

Students who transfer to MSU with **60 or more credits** who are seeking a **subject certification** may apply to the Teacher Education Program immediately if they have **completed 9 credits of major courses** from their previous college or MSU and if they have **completed or are enrolled in CURR 210** Public Purposes of Education: Democracy and Schooling at MSU. Math majors must have completed the 11 credits listed above.

Students who transfer to MSU with **60 or more credits** who are seeking **Early Childhood (P-3) or Elementary (K-5) certification** may apply to the program immediately if they have **completed 9 credits of major courses, including Child Development I**, from their previous college or MSU, and if they have **completed or are enrolled in ECEL 200** Perspectives in Early Childhood & Elementary Education in a Democracy at MSU.

### 3. Applying for Admission

Undergraduate students must apply for admission to the Teacher Education Program. This admissions process is separate from admission to the University or to a major. Applications are online at [http://cehs.montclair.edu/academic/cop/application\\_for\\_admission\\_2011-2012.pdf](http://cehs.montclair.edu/academic/cop/application_for_admission_2011-2012.pdf) and are due at the start of the fall and spring semesters for admission for the following term. **Completed applications must be submitted to University Hall, Suite 1160 on, or preferably before, the second Monday in September or on, or preferably before, the fourth Monday in January by 4:30 p.m. Please note that a variety of factors are considered when determining admission to the Teacher Education Program and candidates who are selected demonstrate the best potential in all areas. Meeting minimum requirements does not guarantee acceptance into the Teacher Education Program.** After you are accepted, you are permitted to enroll in the Professional Sequence, which along with your major and general education requirements culminates in student teaching and completion of the Program. Students must pass all required Praxis II exam(s) in order to student teach. Undergraduates are advised to take the Praxis II when they have completed 90 semester hours. Students must maintain a minimum overall G.P.A. of 2.75 as well as the minimum G.P.A. required specifically for the major(s) as shown on the previous page in order to complete the Program successfully.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Applicants for the DDDC program fill out the same application as listed at the link above. There is one additional essay required for the DDDC program which can be obtained by attending one of the DDDC information sessions hosted each fall semester. More information can be obtained in the Center of Pedagogy, UN 1160.

### 4. Staying Informed

Teacher education adds a layer of complexity to students' schedules and graduation requirements, which means a high level of initiative and follow-through are expected of students. There are many deadlines, policies, and procedures that all future and current teacher education students need to be aware of as they progress through the Program. For detailed and up-to-date information, use the following resources:

- Your major advisor and your teacher education advisor (visit them every semester)
- Our Web site, at: <http://cehs.montclair.edu/academic/cop/teacher/>
- The Teacher Education Program Handbook (available at our Web site and Bb community)
- Center of Pedagogy Blackboard Community (students are automatically enrolled when they take ECEL200 or CURR210, but may be enrolled sooner by emailing Pat Gagnon at [gagnonp@mail.montclair.edu](mailto:gagnonp@mail.montclair.edu)).
- **Special note for those students interested in teaching middle school English, science, math, world languages, or social studies:** students can either pursue P-12 subject certification in that area, or pursue Elementary (grades K-5) certification and apply on their own to the state for a middle school certificate after graduation (currently we do not offer a middle school program at MSU in these areas). The latter option requires having 15 credits and a passing middle school Praxis score in the subject area. Students should seek advisement and plan carefully in order to complete these 15 credits while completing their undergraduate degree. Due to current job market conditions, we strongly advise students planning to pursue Elementary (grades K-5) certification to consider additional endorsements in middle school content areas, TESL, and/or Teacher of Students with Disabilities.

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