

## Teacher Preparation

Teacher certification is available in the following fields:

Art  
Biology\*  
Chemistry\*  
Early Childhood Education  
Early Childhood Education/Special Education (five year, dual certification program)  
Early Childhood/Education of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (five-year, dual certification program)  
Education of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing/Elementary Education (five-year, dual certification program)  
Elementary Education  
English\*  
Health and Exercise Science  
Mathematics\*  
Integrative STEM Education (iSTEM) offered jointly with Elementary, Early Childhood, Special Education, or Education of the Deaf and Heard of Hearing  
Music  
Physics\*  
Secondary Education (in specified subject majors designated by “\*”)  
Social Studies (through either the History\* or the Economics\* major )  
Special Education/Elementary Education (five-year, dual certification program)  
Technology Education  
Urban Education/Early Childhood Education (five-year program with dual certification program in ESL)  
Urban Education/Elementary Education (five-year program with dual certification program in ESL)

In addition to being admitted into to the College and the major, all undergraduate teacher candidates must be officially accepted into the teacher-preparation program as rising juniors. Entrance requirements include a preferred cumulative GPA of 3.0 (GPAs between 2.75 and 3.0 may be accepted with department approval), demonstration of basic skills competency (qualifying SAT, ACT, or Praxis Core scores), and satisfaction of departmental requirements.

To receive a student teaching/clinical practice placement assignment, the teacher candidate must possess a 3.0 GPA and have attempted the Praxis II Content Knowledge Exam that aligns with the student’s certification area. (Teacher candidates with a GPA between 2.75 and 3.0 require departmental approval to participate in student teaching/clinical practice experiences.)

In order to be eligible for institutional recommendation for teacher certification, all teacher candidates (undergraduate and graduate) must successfully complete program requirements, attain a 3.0 cumulative GPA, and earn a minimum student teaching/clinical practice grade of B-.

Students in the School of Arts & Communications, the School of Humanities & Social Sciences, and the School of Science who are preparing to teach at the secondary level must take an approved teacher-preparation content major as well as the required sequence of teacher-preparation courses. Students majoring in Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Education of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Special Education, and Urban Education must also complete an approved “content area” (liberal arts and sciences) major. To avoid extending their program, it is recommended that students declare their content area major early in their first year. Any student seeking additional endorsements or teaching certificates beyond what is specifically awarded by their academic program should contact the State of New Jersey Department of Education directly for details about any additional courses or standardized tests that may be required.

There are also integrated, five-year, dual certification programs in Education of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing/Elementary Education, Special Education/Elementary Education, Early Childhood Education/Education of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Early Childhood Education/Special Education, Urban Education/Early Childhood Education, and Urban Education/Elementary Education. Students will earn a bachelor’s degree without teacher certification at the end of their fourth year. The bachelor’s degree will be a dual major consisting of a liberal arts major and an education major. The course of study continues through the following summer and academic year and culminates with the student’s earning a Master of Arts in Teaching and eligibility for New Jersey teaching certification. Students will need to meet all requirements of The College of New Jersey and the School of Education at the end of the fourth year in order to be admitted to the fifth year.

As of September 1, 2017, all teacher candidates applying for initial certification in New Jersey are required to complete and submit an edTPA portfolio. This is a portfolio assessment developed by SCALE and administered by Pearson. Teacher candidates complete the portfolio during student teaching/clinical practice. For the 2017-2018 academic year, submission of a portfolio is required with no cut score assigned.

**Quality of Teacher Preparation (Title II, Higher Education Act Annual Report):**

The pass rate for teacher-education students graduating from TCNJ in 2015-2016 on the Praxis II examination required for initial licensure in New Jersey was **95%** percent.