ADMISSION TO TEACHER EDUCATION

Admission to all university Teacher Education programs is governed by the Teacher Education Executive Board “Standards for Students Enrolled in Teacher Education Programs.”

The College of Education admits students either as freshmen or as undergraduate transfer students from accredited, post-secondary institutions. During the freshman and sophomore years, students are generally engaged in pre-professional courses or courses that fulfill Core Curriculum requirements, as well as all identified prerequisites (e.g., specific and sequential courses in Core Curriculum) for admission to COE screened majors and programs.

Reflecting commitment to the university’s academic advising program, all College of Education undergraduate programs are screened majors. As an integral part of the teaching/learning experience, students work with advisers in a strategic planning process across all years at the university. Accordingly, to support student success, all COE students are required to confer prior to registration each term with their assigned advisers.

Advising and Screening

Students who plan to enter Teacher Education programs must go online and declare a major (onestop.towson.edu). The program that was declared will contact the student via email for follow-up directions which include:

• Completion of a criminal history disclosure statement
• Assigning an adviser according to the chosen major
• Obtaining information about the required speech and hearing screening
• Obtaining information about the required Praxis I Tests or other identified standardized tests

Admission to Professional Education Programs

Admission to the professional program requires the following:

• Completion of an application for formal admission to the program
• Minimum overall GPA of 2.75 in Early Childhood and Integrated Early Childhood and Special Education, Elementary Education and Integrated Elementary Education and Special Education, Middle School Education, Secondary Education, and Special Education. Students in Art Education, Dance Education, Health Education, Music Education and Physical Education should contact their department chair for procedures and requirements for admission to these programs.
• Completion of speech and hearing screening
• Completion of ENGL 102 or ENGL 190 or equivalent course with grade equivalent of 2.00 or higher; Secondary Education also requires an admission essay.
• Successful completion of Praxis I Academic Skills Assessments or other identified standardized test, such as SAT, GRE, ACT; qualifying scores must be submitted to their major program.
• All students applying for admission to a Teacher Education program at Towson University are required to complete a Criminal History Disclosure Form. This form is to be notarized and kept in the student’s folder. Most departments offer a notary.

In addition to the undergraduate program, the College of Education offers approved, post-baccalaureate “certification only” programs for baccalaureate graduates seeking Maryland state certification. “Certification Only” students must document a passing score (as determined by the Maryland State Department of Education) on Praxis I, SAT, GRE, ACT and attain the required GPA prior to admission.

Admission to the Professional Year of Teaching

Students must attend an orientation meeting in preparation for the Professional Year Term 1 Internship. This meeting is held early in the term prior to the final term, and provides directions for completing the online Teacher Internship Management System (TIMS) application. See additional requirements for Admission to the Professional Year of Teaching under the heading Standards for Students Enrolled in Teacher Education Programs, III. Programs. Because some of Towson University’s Teacher Education programs have selected additional requirements for admission to the teaching internship, students should refer to the section of this catalog related to their specific majors.