ADMISSION AND STANDARDS FOR TEACHER EDUCATION

The Teacher Education Executive Board (TEEB) representing all Teacher Education programs at Towson University adopted the following minimum requirements as conditions for entrance into Teacher Education programs and formal entry into internship.

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.

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 Admission to Professional Education Programs

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

- Completing a Criminal History Disclosure Form. This form may be obtained from the major departments. The form is to be notarized and kept in the student’s folder in the academic department. Most departments offer a notary, as does the Center for Professional Practice in Hawkins Hall 303.
- Assigning an adviser according to the chosen major
- Submitting the required scores for Praxis Core or other identified standardized tests, such as SAT, GRE, ACT.
- Completing an application for formal admission to the program
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 in:
  - Early Childhood
  - Early Childhood / Special Education
  - Elementary Education
  - Elementary Education / Special Education
  - Middle School Education
  - Secondary Education (also requires an admission essay)
  - Special Education
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 in:
  - Music Education
- For the following programs, students should contact the department for procedures and requirements for admission into the program:
  - Art Education
  - Dance Education
  - Health Education
  - Physical Education

Admission to the Professional Year of Teaching

Requirements for Entry into Internship for all Professional Education Programs

1. Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00.
2. Minimum GPA of 2.75 in academic major for Secondary Education programs.
3. Minimum GPA 3.00 in professional education courses for all programs.
4. Some 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.

Professional Behavior

The Teacher Education Executive Board (TEEB) reserves the right for each department/program to refuse, deny or revoke the application for admission to professional education programs or continuation in professional education programs of any student whose observed conduct is deemed incongruent with established guidelines of professional behavior.

As a professional discipline, education is “vested by the public with a trust and responsibility requiring the highest ideals of professional service.” All Teacher Education students agree to accept “the responsibility to adhere to the highest ethical standards of professional behavior.” Placing the importance of professional behavior and duties above one’s own convenience is the cornerstone of professionalism.

All Teacher Education students are responsible for understanding unit, department- and program-specific professional expectations. In addition to fulfilling all academic requirements, successful completion of all field experiences requires demonstrated professional behavior including, but not limited to, punctuality, attendance, professional attire, discretion, respect for confidentiality, effective and appropriate communication with university and school-based students and personnel, and acceptance of diversity.

All Teacher Education students must exhibit behavior that is consistent with the university’s Code of Conduct, the Unit’s Professional Behavior Policy, and established professional practice in educational and clinical settings. Successful completion of all field experiences is a requirement for continuation in the education program.