

# COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

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Towson University has a distinguished history in the preparation of classroom teachers and education specialists. As the first teacher-training institution in Maryland, Towson University has been preparing men and women for teaching careers for more than 150 years. Programs of study within the College of Education lead to the baccalaureate degree in education with eligibility for certification in Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Middle School Education and Special Education. In addition, the college offers programs that lead to certification in Secondary Education and PreK-12 education for those students enrolled in other colleges of the university. Programs of study within the college are constantly assessed and reorganized in order to provide students with three essentials for professional success:

1. a challenging core curriculum in a variety of disciplines;
2. in-depth content knowledge in the field of teaching specialization;
3. and a professional education based upon current research, professional standards, and models of best practice.

The teaching faculty in the College of Education is dedicated to providing a background in research on learning and methods of instruction which prepares teachers and education specialists as facilitators of active learning for diverse and inclusive populations in environments that are technologically advanced. To promote this goal, faculty members are committed to active participation in the academic community as teachers, scholars and advisers. They use methods of instruction which emphasize active student learning through the integration of content knowledge with the study and practice of effective pedagogy.

Laurie Mullen, Dean  
 Laila Richman, Associate Dean  
 Gilda Martinez-Alba, Assistant Dean

- Early Childhood Education (<http://catalog.towson.edu/undergraduate/education/early-childhood-education>)
- Elementary Education (<http://catalog.towson.edu/undergraduate/education/elementary-education>)
- Health Education
- Instructional Technology (<http://catalog.towson.edu/undergraduate/education/educational-technology-literacy>)
- Early Childhood – Special Education (<http://catalog.towson.edu/undergraduate/education/special-education/integrated-early-childhood-special-education>)
- Elementary Education – Special Education (<http://catalog.towson.edu/undergraduate/education/special-education/integrated-elementary-education-special-education/#text>)
- PreK-12 Teacher Education (Art, Dance, Music, Physical Education, and World Languages)
- Middle School Education (<http://catalog.towson.edu/undergraduate/education/secondary-education/middle-school-education>)
- Secondary Education (<http://catalog.towson.edu/undergraduate/education/secondary-education>)

- Special Education (<http://catalog.towson.edu/undergraduate/education/special-education>)

The College of Education offers programs of study leading to the baccalaureate degree in education with certification to teach early childhood, elementary, middle school and special education. In addition, the college offers programs that lead to teacher certification in secondary education and PreK-12 education. Students must be aware that all programs are screened majors; specified admission standards, including Core Curriculum requirements, are included in program-specific descriptions.

Teacher Education programs, based on state and national standards, are approved by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) and the Maryland State Department of Education. Applicants for Maryland teaching certificates are required to achieve qualifying scores on the Praxis Core—or other identified testing alternative—and Praxis II examinations, as determined by the Maryland State Board of Education.

## Mission Statement

The mission for professional education at Towson University is to inspire, educate and prepare educators as facilitators of active learning for diverse and inclusive populations in environments that are technologically advanced. In this process, faculty members assume the responsibility for designing, developing, implementing and assessing academic programs for:

1. entering College of Education freshmen
2. transfer students
3. post-baccalaureate students seeking certification (M.A.T.; approved programs)
4. master's degree students
5. post-master's degree students seeking continuing professional development
6. doctoral students acquiring expertise to shape the future of education

## Vision Statement

The vision for professional education at Towson University is to build upon its rich heritage and excellent reputation and to position itself to maintain a leadership role in academic program planning and public policy formulation. By maintaining this leadership role, teacher education can ensure that active learning occurs in diverse and inclusive educational environments where contemporary information resources are available. Thus, teacher education, in collaboration with other public/private agencies, can assist in the readiness of all learners to succeed in a rapidly changing, diverse and highly technical world. In order to achieve this vision, Teacher Education programs at Towson University are committed to:

1. ensuring the mastery of appropriate content in core curriculum in the liberal arts and sciences as well as in the specific academic discipline and advanced fields of study
2. reflecting upon and refining best practices—Professional knowledge and skills—to develop a repertoire of instructional and assessment strategies
3. preparing students for diverse and inclusive populations through systematic exposure to heterogeneous populations
4. utilizing appropriate technologies which reflect best practices in education

5. helping develop, internalize and display professional conscience (commitment to professional practice, caring for the success and well-being of all students, and collaboration with colleagues and stakeholders)
6. developing collaborative partnerships with the public/private sector
7. providing leadership in professional education through scholarly endeavors