COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Undergraduate programs within the College of Education prepare students to transform schools and communities in the pursuit of knowledge and social justice. Through the continuous evaluation and refinement of academic programs and courses, offerings are kept current and relevant to real world contexts and professional standards of quality. Experienced, dedicated, and culturally diverse faculty work collaboratively with students to foster knowledge and skills with respect to diverse learners, instruction, assessment, and research. Talent and resources from a variety of disciplines are integrated and used, as are cutting edge technologies. All programs require a variety of field and clinical experiences that augment and integrate academic studies.

Undergraduates may earn teacher licensure in the State of Illinois in the following areas: Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Middle School Education, Secondary Education, and Special Education. Early Childhood, Elementary, Middle School, and Special Education teacher candidates major in education and receive a BA. Secondary teacher candidates choose a major in History, Math, Biology, Chemistry, or English and minor in Secondary Education. The College of Education also works with the Chicago College of Performing Arts to prepare teachers in Music Education. Music teacher candidates major in Music Education. Information about this program is located in the CCPA section of this catalog. All of the above programs are a part of the New Deal Teacher Academy.

In addition, the College of Education offers a major and minor in Educational Studies for students who wish to develop foundational knowledge and skills in education without earning teacher licensure.

All programs are offered at the Chicago campus on Michigan Avenue; some courses are offered online. Elementary Education is also offered at the Schaumburg Campus. The College of Education has a history of serving nontraditional as well as traditional undergraduate students, and schedules are designed to meet the needs of full-time as well as part-time students.

Accreditation

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) approves all undergraduate teacher preparation programs in the College of Education, and most undergraduate teacher preparation programs are nationally recognized by professional teacher organizations.

Admission Requirements

Most undergraduates complete all of their general education requirements prior to program admission. Grades below C are not accepted for these courses (C- grades are not acceptable). Because general education requirements are subject to change and are different by program, undergraduates must consult frequently with their advisors in the College of Education and, if they are secondary education minors, in the College of Arts and Sciences.

To be admitted to a teacher preparation program in the College of Education, all students must present evidence of their capabilities and potential to implement high quality teaching practices informed by the conceptual framework of the College of Education. At a minimum, students must have achieved a 2.7 grade point average for all collegiate work, inclusive of all courses and grades from other institutions attended by the student. A minimum of 24 credit hours at Roosevelt University or another higher education institution is required to earn admission.

In addition to a minimum 2.7 comprehensive GPA, the College of Education requires that all undergraduates pass the ILTS Test of Academic Proficiency or have substituted an ACT or SAT score that meets the state’s criterion to earn admission to a teacher preparation program. Test dates, registration forms, and study guides are available online. Please note that students must pass all subtests of the TAP in order to earn a passing score and admission to a teacher preparation program. Students are encouraged to take the Test of Academic Proficiency during their first year of study at RU or, if transferring to RU, prior to submitting an application for admission to Roosevelt University.

Students who have not met both of the above admission criteria or who do not wish to obtain teacher licensure may choose the Educational Studies major or minor.

Professional advisors in the College of Education will guide students with respect to general education courses, teacher preparation admission requirements, and courses leading to the Educational Studies major or minor. Education courses outside of the Educational Studies major or minor are open only to students who have earned admission to a teacher preparation program.

Endorsements

As undergraduates complete their teacher preparation program, they may earn the special education (LBS I) endorsement, middle school endorsement, and/or bilingual or ESL endorsements. Students interested in the above endorsements should consult with their advisors and complete application forms through the College of Education Licensure Officer during the last semester of study. For all licensure and endorsement application forms and information, please contact the Licensure Officer of the College of Education.

Clinical Experiences

Extensive contact with classrooms and/or community centers and first-hand experience in dealing with everyday problems are critical components of all undergraduate programs. Through its Office of Field Placements, the College of Education offers a wide variety of field and clinical experiences. Experiences in clinical sites entail observation, tutoring, small-group interactions, and large-group instruction, as well as participation in school and community activities. Field sites range from the city to the suburbs and enable students to interact significantly with culturally diverse learners.

The Office of Field Placements approves all clinical placements, taking into consideration the needs and interests of faculty, programs, clinical partners, and students. Students may only arrange their own placements when specifically asked to do so, using a list of approved sites. Under no circumstances should students contact schools or other sites without explicit permission from the Office of Field Placements.

Applications for student teaching placements must be submitted by Dec. 1, for placements the following fall, and by April 1 for placements the following spring. Students who submit late applications will need to obtain additional approvals and may encounter delays in obtaining a site for student teaching.

Only students who have successfully completed all required general education, academic concentration, academic major, and state-mandated tests and documentation will be admitted to student
teaching. Procedures for Student Performance Reviews, available on the COE website, will be followed if significant performance issues are documented during field experiences. Orientations and other meetings related to field experiences are required of all students.

Continuing Enrollment

All candidates for teacher licensure must maintain a minimum 2.7 comprehensive GPA in order to qualify for student teaching and their degrees. A cumulative GPA of 3.0 is required in the education majors and Secondary Education minor. Some programs require a minimum 3.0 GPA in an academic concentration or major in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Grades below C (for example, a C-) are not acceptable for meeting either degree or certification requirements. Students also must demonstrate the core professional dispositions outlined in the College of Education conceptual framework and in course syllabi; failure to do so may result in a hearing, remediation, and/or dismissal from the program. Because requirements for continuing enrollment are subject to change, undergraduates must consult frequently with their education advisors. The advising plan developed by the education advisor provides the most up-to-date and authoritative information with respect to all program and licensure requirements.

Educational Studies

The Educational Studies program is not a teacher preparation program, and it does not result in teacher licensure. The minor is an 18 credit hour concentration of education courses that prepares students for graduate school in education and school counseling, as well as for work with children and families in government, private industry, adult education, and social service agencies. Students with majors in other colleges at Roosevelt University may choose the Educational Studies minor and obtain advising assistance from professional advisors in the College of Education.

The major in Educational Studies requires 45 credit hours of study, and provides students with employment credentials just short of teacher licensure in the areas of early care and education and youth development and education. A passing score on the ILTS Basic Skills Test or Test of Academic Proficiency is not required for enrollment in courses in the minor or major.

Graduation

When students meet with advisors before registration for the final semester, they should confirm that all requirements for graduation have been met. Students must make formal application for graduation to the Graduation Office, and completed applications must be on file in the Office of the Registrar by the posted deadline.

Grievances

Faculty and staff in the College of Education are dedicated to the mission and vision of the college and the university. In the event of a grievance or complaint, students should consult the procedures that the college and university have established for the resolution of such matters. For information about these procedures, consult the College of Education website and the Student Handbook available on the Roosevelt University website.

Transfer Credit

No more than 70 credit hours will be accepted in transfer from a two-year institution. The final 54 credit hours toward the BAE degree or secondary education minor must be earned at a regionally accredited four-year college or university. No more than 12 credit hours in the major transferred from another college will be allowed in the teacher licensure programs. The student’s final 30 credit hours must be earned at Roosevelt University. A maximum of 9 hours of transfer credit will be accepted toward the Educational Studies minor. No transfer credit for a course in education will be accepted unless an official course description is submitted and it is determined that the work completed was equivalent in level and content to a Roosevelt University course required for a degree in education. A grade of C or higher or an acceptable evaluation of the student’s performance is required. Once a student is enrolled, all subsequent course work must be taken at Roosevelt University.