

General Transfer Information for Future Education Majors

1) Do your research. Determine what type of teacher you want to become.

There are a variety of opportunities available in the Education field. Learn about Early Childhood, Elementary, Middle, Secondary and Special Education. Investigate the special subject area fields of School Library Media, Bilingual Education, Technology Education, Physical Education, Art and Music Education, Health and Home Economics. Use the research tools listed here to help with your exploration. In addition, you may want to review the list of shortage areas posted each year (2012-2013 below) to investigate areas of teaching with the most openings.

Research Tools

- Read career books about Education Careers. These books are available in the Career Development & Counseling Center (CD&CC) and your local library.
- Utilize the websites on this web page for information about colleges, certification, and Praxis, the State of Connecticut testing requirement.
- Job shadow teachers from all the areas of Education you may be interested in. Spend time observing the differences in activities and subject matter.
- Volunteer or work for pay with children or young adults. Some schools require this type of experience for Education majors.
- Volunteer at local schools. There is nothing like *experience* to help you with your career decision. And, teachers will appreciate the help!
- Use the Career Counseling services of the CD&CC for assistance in your career decision.

Shortage Areas

Each year, school districts in Connecticut provide information to the State Department of Education regarding the hiring of teachers for that school year. The State Department then uses this information to determine which content areas are the most in need of teachers. Reviewing these certification areas, called *shortage areas* can be helpful in choosing your type of certification.

Teacher Shortage Areas, 2012-2013 School Year

Certification Endorsements

- | | |
|---|--|
| • Bilingual Education, PK-12 | • Remedial Reading and Language Arts, 1-12 |
| • Comprehensive Special Education, K-12 | • School Library and Media Specialist |
| • Hearing Impaired, PK-12 | • Science, 7-12 |
| • Intermediate Administrator | • Speech and Language Pathologist |
| • Mathematics, 7-12 | • World Languages, 7-12 |

Continued on next page...

2) Prepare for and/or complete State of Connecticut Teacher Education requirements.

- Select appropriate Middlesex courses which will transfer to the four-year college of your choice. Required courses will differ depending on which education major, subject matter major *and* four-year college that you choose. The staff of the CD&CC or your academic advisor can assist you with the selection of majors and courses.
- Keep track of your Grade Point Average (GPA). You must maintain a **GPA of 2.70** in all college work to apply to the education department at a four-year institution in Connecticut. This includes courses taken at Middlesex as well as all other colleges you have attended.
- Meet state mandated SAT or Praxis I testing requirements (see **Guide to Praxis and Assessments in Connecticut** link on this web page). If you are required to take the Praxis I test, prepare for and take the test at least one semester before applying to the educational department at the college of your choice. You may apply for general admission to the college without taking the Praxis I examination.
- Check the transfer college's education department application guidelines. The education department may have specific requirements you will need to meet in order to be considered a qualified candidate. These may be completion of specific courses, completion of appropriate time with children, obtaining letters of reference from persons who can attest to your suitability to be a teacher and submitting an essay about your interest in education.
- Keep up to date. Education requirements and teacher preparation programs are subject to change. It is in your best interest to keep in contact with the CD&CC, visit web pages (links on this web page) of the state certification office and the education departments of the four-year colleges for up-to-date information.