

FACT

Illinois has suffered from a shortage of mathematics teachers for the last eight years.

Source: "Designated Teacher Shortage Areas," Illinois State Board of Education

The critical shortage of qualified math teachers nationally has fueled the increased demand for certified mathematics educators. Governor State University's Mathematics Education certificate program prepares you for teacher certification in mathematics at the secondary education level. The program is open to baccalaureate graduates holding a degree in mathematics.

The sequence of coursework is approved by the Illinois State Board of Education and leads to an initial high school licensure in mathematics. You can also obtain an endorsement for teaching in middle school.

To be recommended for an Illinois State Board of Education teaching license, you must present evidence of having passed the Test of Academic Proficiency (formerly Basic Skills), Subject-Matter Knowledge, and Assessment of Professional Teaching examinations of the Illinois Certification Testing System. You must complete a student teaching requirement in mathematics and must meet other requirements for certification through approved programs in the Teacher Education and Certification section of the GSU catalog.

Unlimited Opportunity

GSU offers a superior educational opportunity at an affordable tuition rate while maintaining the professional quality of its programs. GSU's outstanding faculty and real-world curriculum prepare graduates to meet the demands of the future.

For More Information:

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Mathematics Education Certificate

College of Arts & Sciences

Teacher Certification

This sequence of courses is approved by the Illinois State Board of Education and leads to the Initial Secondary Licensure in mathematics. To be recommended for licensure by Governors State University, students must earn a grade of "B" or better in EDUC-4999 Student Teaching: Mathematics.

To be recommended for an Illinois State Board of Education teaching certificate, the student must present evidence of having passed the Test of Academic Proficiency (formerly Basic Skills), Subject-Matter Knowledge, and Assessment of Professional Teaching examinations of the Illinois Certification Testing System.

Students must meet other requirements for licensure through approved programs listed in the Licensure of Teachers and Other School Professionals section of the catalog.

To be recommended by Governors State University, students must apply for the license within one year of completing the program.

Admission to Mathematics Education

In addition to meeting all university admission requirements for certificate students, applicants must meet the following requirements to be admitted to the Mathematics Education Certificate:

1. have a bachelor's or higher in Mathematics from a regionally accredited college or university;
2. have a cumulative average G.P.A. of 2.5 or higher in all lower division courses applied to the degree program; and
3. submit a word-processed essay not to exceed 300 words explaining why the applicant wishes to be a teacher.

Student progress

The faculty monitors and evaluates student progress continually. The Licensure of Teachers and Other School Professionals section in the catalog provides a general description of the standards used to evaluate student progress. A more detailed statement of the standards and processes followed by the secondary education faculty is available in the Secondary Education Undergraduate Handbook.

Continuation in the Certificate

In order to continue in the certificate after the first term of enrollment, students must meet the following requirements:

1. complete EDUC - 2310 Foundations of Education (3) (or equivalent) with a grade of "B" or better;
2. submit evidence of having passed the Test of Academic Proficiency (formerly Basic Skills) of the Illinois Licensure Testing System; and
3. submit scores from the ETS Proficiency Profile; and Some schools and/or school districts require criminal background checks in advance of any field experience undertaken by teacher preparation candidates in school settings. Candidates may be required to comply with these requirements.

Consult with your advisor for information concerning the related GSU policies and procedures.

Admission to Student Teaching

Before enrolling in Student Teaching (12), an application for admission to student teaching must be submitted of the director of Field Experiences. The application must be submitted by Dec. 1 for the fall term and Jan. 31 for the spring term preceding the academic year in which the student intends to teach (student teaching is not offered in the summer term). This application for student teaching will verify that the student applying has or will have met the following requirements:

1. completed at least 48 hours of general education requirements with a G.P.A. of 2.75 or higher in courses taken at Governors State University;
2. completed professional education course requirements, except student teaching, including a minimum of 100 clock hours of field experience with a G.P.A. of 3.0 or higher, with a grade of "C" or better in each course, and EDUC-6360 and EDUC-6370 with a grade of "B" or better;
3. must have completed methods course no more than two years prior to the commencement of student teaching;
4. have no more than six hours remaining to be completed in the certificate in which the student is enrolled with a G.P.A. of 3.0 or higher and completed all courses with a "C" or better;

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5. met all state requirements applicable to the subject matter area(s) in which the student will teach as outlined in Section IX, Staff Qualifications of the Illinois State Board of Education publication, Minimum Requirements for State Licensure;
6. submit evidence of having passed the Mathematics content area exam of the Illinois Licensure Testing System; and
7. received a positive recommendation from the Second-art Education Student progress Committee.

Certificate Requirements

Students must meet all university requirements for a license, and in addition, student must complete the general education requirement for teacher licensure Initial Secondary License listed in the Teacher Education section of this catalog.

In addition, students must:

1. have a cumulative G.P.A. of 2.5 or higher;
2. earn a grade of "C" or better in all general education courses;
3. have a G.P.A. of 2.75 or higher for all general education courses;
4. have a G.P.A. of 3.0 or higher in mathematics courses with a grade of "C" or better in each course;
5. have a G.P.A. of 3.0 or higher for EDCP-6101 , EDUC-3440 , and SPED-6101 , with a grade of "C" or better in each course;
6. earn a grade of "B" or better in EDUC-2310 , EDUC-6360 , and EDUC-6370 ;
7. earn a grade of "B" or better in EDUC-4999 ;
8. complete a minimum of 100 clock hours of supervised pre-student teaching experiences;
9. provide evidence of successful completion of the Illinois and U.S. Constitution examinations;
10. show evidence of having passed the Assessment of Professional Teaching;
11. meet any additional requirements listed in the Teacher Licensure section of this catalog; and
12. receive a positive recommendation from the Secondary Education Student progress Committee.

Professional Education (minimum of 24 hours)

The following courses can be taken at either the lower-division or upper-division level:

- EDUC-2310 Foundations of Education (3)
- SPED-2100/6101 Survey of Students w/ Except. (3)
- EDCP-2101/6101 Introduction to Ed Technology (3)

The following courses must be taken at the upper-division level:

- EDUC - 3440 Educational Psychology II: (3)
- EDUC - 6360 Principles of Sec. Math Education (3)
- EDUC - 6370 Teaching Sec. School Mathematics (3)
- EDUC - 4999 Student Teaching (12)

Additional Requirements

Students may need to complete additional general education or Mathematics courses if their bachelor degree requirements do not meet the requirements of the approved Governors State University program for the endorsement in Mathematics Education.

Minimum Total - 24 Hours at GSU

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