

Pre-Teacher Secondary Education

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Advising Center

M305 Smith Memorial Student Union, (503) 725-3822

8/2011

The Graduate Teacher Education Program (GTEP) is designed for individuals who have completed an undergraduate degree from an accredited college and wish to receive their Initial Teaching License through completion of the Graduate School of Education's 4-term, graduate-level professional training program, or through the 8-term, part-time program. Successful completion of the GTEP qualifies an individual to teach in two authorization areas: **Middle Level**, grades 5-9; and **Secondary Level**, grades 7-12 in subject area. At the completion of GTEP a student will be within 10 credits of completing her or his Master's in Education.

Dual Endorsement: Additionally, the Initial Licensure in Middle Level/Secondary with endorsements in both a content area and in special education is a full-time, six-term program leading to a Master's degree and licensure in both middle/secondary and special education. For more information go to <http://ceed.pdx.edu/sdep/>

All students interested in GTEP should attend one of the School of Education's frequently offered group information sessions. 204 ED. Call (503)725-4619 or go to <http://www.pdx.edu/education/> APPLICATION DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 1.

Also, go to www.ous.edu/teachedguide.htm to view "How to Become an Oregon Teacher."

GTEP Admission Requirements:

1) Have at least a 3.0 GPA (cumulative, upper division or graduate level).

2) Complete a core of endorsement area courses and other courses earning B- or better.

Students who want to be a high school teacher should major in the subject area that they want to teach. Prospective high school teachers should contact the pre-education academic adviser within their major department and review the list of required courses at

<http://www.pdx.edu/ci/secondary-prerequisites>

Academic majors and their respective secondary endorsements areas are as follows: biology (biology and general science); physical education (physical education); history, anthropology, sociology, philosophy, political science, geography, and economics (social studies); health (health); mathematics (mathematics); English (English language arts); art (art); foreign languages and literatures (foreign language); music (music); chemistry (chemistry); physics (physics); business and economics (business); drama (drama); speech (speech). All required content area courses need to earn a B- or better.

Please see list for faculty adviser contact information at

<http://www.pdx.edu/education/gse-advising>

3) Must complete PSY 311- Human Development. Ed 420 Introduction to Education (includes practicum) and CI 432 Computer Applications for the Classroom are strongly recommended. Course work should earn a B- or better.

4) Have experience working with children in educational or social service agencies.

- 5) Provide letters of recommendation from persons who have seen you work with children
- 6) Meet other requirements set by the School of Education
- 7) Make acceptable scores on the required tests:

All teachers in Oregon must pass specific basic skills, content knowledge, and civil rights knowledge tests before they can be licensed to teach. Applicants to GTEP must provide documentation indicating passing scores on basic skills and content knowledge as part of their GTEP application. Applicants should make arrangements for taking the tests as early as possible, but no later than eight (8) weeks prior to the December 1st deadline. For more general information about the approved licensure tests in Oregon, go to the [Teachers Standards and Practices Commission \(TSPC\) website](#).

Basic Skill Tests

All GTEP applicants must pass a basic skills test and submit a print copy of the Test Score Report as part of their GTEP application. Oregon's licensure agency, Teachers Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) has approved the following three options for verification of basic skills:

- [CBEST](#) (Reading, Writing and Math);
- [Praxis I: PPST](#) (Reading, Writing and Math); or
- [WEST-B](#) (Reading, Writing and Math).

Content Knowledge Tests

TSPC has approved content knowledge tests with two different testing vendors (Praxis and ORELA/NES), depending on the particular content area that a teacher candidate is seeking.

For complete testing information see <http://www.pdx.edu/ci/gtep-prerequisites-and-tests>

Completion of the above requirements does not guarantee admission to the School of Education as enrollment is limited and competitive.

Experience: Preparing to be a teacher requires more than your academic course work. You should plan on building solid experience & volunteer or otherwise with the age group you wish to teach. While applicants tend to have a variety of experiences including day care, coaching, serving as a camp counselor, etc---you should have some experience in a diverse mid-level or high school classroom. The strongest candidates will have had some exposure to both mid-level and high school level students. Solid recommendations from teachers and administrators who have observed you interacting with young people are a very important part of your application.

Possible PSU CAPSTONES: Kiwanis Camp, Family Mathematics, Boys and Girls Club, Effective Environmental Education, Global PDX: African Children, Reflecting Community, Science Inquiry, Change for Common Good, Communication Education Outreach, Juvenile Justice, High School Water Quality Monitoring, Tutoring Native American Youth, Upward Bound, Youth in Transition, Mathematics and Society.

Volunteering: There are a number of local volunteer groups that can assist you in finding volunteer opportunities with children including **Oregon Volunteers, Hands on Portland, Volunteer Match and Network for Good**. Complete information can be found on their websites. You can also work with individual schools as most of them have their own volunteer coordinators.

Other Graduate Level Teacher Education Programs:

**Concordia University
George Fox, Newberg**

**Lewis & Clark College
Marylhurst, West Linn**

**University of Portland
Pacific University, Forest Grove**

Outside the Portland-area, there are also a number of graduate-level teacher education programs which can be found at www.ous.edu/teachedguide.htm

For more information about teacher licensing in Oregon go to www.tspc.state.or.us