

Initial Program at the Advanced Level for Certification

Application to Teacher Education program

Students who select elementary education or special education or certification in a secondary subject area must make a formal application to the Teacher Education Program. See Appendix I. (Nebraska Department of Education, NAC 92, Rule 20, 004.06G)

1. Requirements for admission to the Teacher Education Program:

INITIAL PROGRAM AT THE ADVANCED LEVEL

- Application: Completion of Summer I courses (Nebraska Department of Education, NAC 92, Rule 20, 004.06G)
- Declare Certification Area
- GPA requirements:
 - Cumulative GPA of 3.0
(Nebraska Department of Education, NAC 92, Rule 20, 004.06E1, 004.06E2, 004.06G)
- Positive Background check
- Satisfactory Recommendations from:
 - Course Instructors
 - Faculty in teacher education
- Completed and on file: Personal and Professional Fitness Self-Disclosure Form (See Appendix G)
(NAC 92, Rule 20, 004.06)

2. Decisions by Teacher Education Committee

Decisions are determined by the Teacher Education Committee to the Teacher Education Program can be one of the following:

- full admission,
- admission with concerns,
- provisional admission,
- denial of admission.

The student will be informed by letter within a week of the Teacher Education Committee's decision about the application to the Teacher Education Program.

3. Appeal Decision Process

The student has the right of an appeal to any of the decisions and can request a personal review to seek changes of the decisions. The procedure is as follows:

- The student meets for a personal interview with the Dean of College of Education.
- A date is set for the Teacher Education Committee to meet as a whole for reconsideration.
- The student has a personal appearance before the Committee, with another faculty member as consul if desired, for the purpose of presenting additional data and answering questions prior to Committee vote.

4. Determinations and Options of Decisions

Denial reasons may include, but are not limited to the following:

1) Grades: Denied admission to the program due to a grade below a C-:

- The student with any grade in a cognate that is below C- will have that grade reviewed and may be required to repeat the course.
- After completion of the cognate course and meeting the GPA requirements, the student may reapply for admission to the Teacher Education Program.

2) Cumulative GPAs: Denied admission to the program due to not meeting GPA requirements

- The student may be advised out of the program until meeting the required GPA. After GPA requirements are met, the student may reapply for admission to the Teacher Education Program.
- The student may be counseled out of the program.
- The student may have another semester to bring GPA up to continue in the teacher education program. At the end of the semester student may reapply for admission to the Teacher Education Program.

3) Negative comments/Dispositions: Denied admission due to negative recommendations.

- The student is denied by cooperating teacher selecting "deny" to the teacher education program on the practicum final evaluation with comments indicating concerns.
- The student is denied by faculty selecting "deny" to the teacher education program on the recommendation form with comments indicating concerns.

4) Background check: Denied admission due to convictions. (NAC 92, Rule 20, 004.06B)

- The student with a conviction may request approval by the Nebraska Department of Education.
- The student can follow the procedures set forth in NAC 92, Rule 21, sections 009.02 through 009.04.

Application to Student Teaching

Students anticipating the student teaching experience must make a formal application to the Teacher Education Program prior to student teaching. See Appendix I. (Nebraska Department of Education, NAC 92, Rule 20, 004.06G)

1. Requirements for admission to Student Teaching:

INITIAL PROGRAM AT THE ADVANCED LEVEL

- Application: Completion of Practicum courses (Nebraska Department of Education, NAC 92, Rule 20, 004.06G)
- GPA requirements
 - Cumulative GPA of 3.00 (Nebraska Department of Education, NAC 92, Rule 20, 004.06E1, 004.06E2, 004.06G)
- Positive Background check
- Satisfactory Recommendations from:
 - Cooperating teachers of field experiences
 - Course Instructors
 - Faculty in teacher education
- Completed and on file: Personal and Professional Fitness Self-Disclosure Form (See Appendix G) (NAC 92, Rule 20, 004.06)
- Successfully complete the practicum(s)

2. Decisions by Teacher Education Committee

Decisions are determined by the Teacher Education Committee to Student Teaching can be one of the following:

- full admission,
- admission with concerns,
- provisional admission,
- denial of admission.

The student will be informed by letter within a week of the Teacher Education Committee's decision about the application to Student Teaching.

3. Appeal Decision Process

The student has the right of an appeal to any of the decisions and can request a personal review to seek changes of the decisions. The procedure is as follows:

- The student meets for a personal interview with the Dean of College of Education.
- A date is set for the Teacher Education Committee to meet as a whole for reconsideration.
- The student has a personal appearance before the Committee, with another faculty member as consul if desired, for the purpose of presenting additional data and answering questions prior to Committee vote.

4. Determinations and Options of Decisions

Denial reasons may include, but are not limited to the following:

1) Cognate Grades: Denied admission to the program due to a grade below a C-:

- The student with any grade in a cognate that is below C- will have that grade reviewed and may be required to repeat the course.
- After completion of the cognate course and meeting the GPA requirements, the student may reapply for admission to the Teacher Education Program.

Note: Even though the guidelines for GPAs are met by the student, such a grade may be used as part of the criteria for not admitting the student into student teaching.)

2) Graduate Course Grades: Denied admission to the program due to a grade below a B-:

- The student with any grade in a graduate course that is below B- will have that grade reviewed and additional work may be required.
- After completion of the graduate course and meeting the GPA requirements, the student may reapply for admission to the Teacher Education Program.

Note: Even though the guidelines for GPAs are met by the student, such a grade may be used as part of the criteria for not admitting the student into student teaching.)

3) Cumulative GPAs: Denied admission to student teaching due to not meeting GPA requirements

- The student may be advised out of the program until meeting the required GPA. After GPA requirements are met, the student may reapply for admission to student teach.
- The student may be counseled out of the program.

4) Negative comments/Dispositions: Denied admission due to negative recommendations/comments.

- The student is denied by cooperating teacher selecting "deny" to student teaching on the practicum final evaluation with comments indicating concerns.
- The student is denied by faculty selecting "deny" to student teaching on the recommendation form with comments indicating concerns.

5) Background check: Denied admission due to convictions. (NAC 92, Rule 20, 004.06B)

- The student with a conviction may request approval by the Nebraska Department of Education.
- The student can follow the procedures set forth in NAC 92, Rule 21, sections 009.02 through 009.04.