

TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

Director: Jewell Askins

Students planning to teach must be admitted to the College and Teacher Education Program (TEP) as described below.

Students pursuing programs leading to an initial teacher license at either the elementary, middle or secondary level must complete the appropriate curriculum for teacher education, including the general education requirements, requirements for one of the majors offered by the College, specific teaching endorsement requirements, professional studies requirements, and the teaching internship.

Students planning to teach at the Pre-K–6 level or special education must complete a major in Liberal Arts and Sciences as described on pages 125-130.

Those who possess a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution and wish to become eligible for an initial teacher license must complete all requirements for admission to the Teacher Education Program. Individuals possessing a master's degree from an accredited institution may be accepted into the Teacher Education Program after a review of their credentials by the Director of Teacher Education.

Students who do not meet all requirements of the State Approved Program at The University of Virginia's College at Wise, including a teaching internship, will fall under the guidelines of the Virginia Department of Education and additional coursework may be required when seeking licensure.

ADMISSION TO THE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

Admission to UVa-Wise does not guarantee admission to the Teacher Education Program. Students seeking a license to teach in the public schools in Virginia must apply for and be granted admission to the TEP by the Teacher Education Admissions Committee.

Application forms may be obtained from the Office of the Director of Teacher Education and should be submitted to that office upon completion.

Students who have completed 30 or more semester hours of course work and students who have already completed a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university and wish to be admitted to the TEP should apply immediately after their admission to UVa-Wise. Those students who have a grade point average of 2.50 (or higher) and a four-year college or university degree and have not been admitted to the TEP may be permitted to take courses requiring TEP

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admission during their first semester at UVa-Wise. During this first semester, these students must complete all requirements for admission to the TEP by the conclusion of the semester.

After initiating the application process, students should periodically contact the Director of Teacher Education to review the status of their candidacy.

The Teacher Education Admissions Committee will interview those students who have been identified as eligible for admission. To be considered eligible, students must present evidence of the following to the Director of Teacher Education:

1. Admission to The University of Virginia's College at Wise;
2. Completion of at least 30 semester hours of academic credit from an accredited college or university;
3. A cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or better for all course work completed at UVa-Wise and an overall cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or better from all colleges and universities attended;
4. Written recommendations from:
 - a. The chair of their major academic department at UVa-Wise and the department which offers an approved program of study appropriate for the teaching licensure being sought. A recommendation from the appropriate department is also required for students seeking licensures in additional teaching areas.
 - b. Four college instructors (including at least two members of the UVa-Wise faculty) who have observed and assessed the candidate's performance as a student;
5. Completion of EDUC 251, Foundations and Development of American Education, with a recorded grade of "C" or better;
6. Passing scores on the PRAXIS I (PPST) by the end of the candidates' sophomore (or second) year at UVa-Wise. Appeals for exceptions to this requirement may be made to the Director of the Teacher Education Program. Transfer students seeking admission to the TEP will have one year from the date of admission to the College to submit passing scores on the PRAXIS I. Students must either pass all three tests (reading, writing, mathematics) individually or achieve a composite passing score for the tests, which must include a passing score on the writing test. Students who have taken the SAT before April 1, 1995, and achieved a score of 1,000 (450 minimum verbal and 510 minimum math) or

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students who have taken the SAT after April 1, 1995, and achieved a score of 1,100 (530 minimum verbal and 530 minimum math) are not required to take the PRAXIS I. However, those students who submit appropriate SAT substitute scores and who did not write an essay as part of the SAT examination must write an acceptable essay as judged by the TEP Admissions Committee.

The purpose of the Teacher Education Admissions Committee is to assure that students who are admitted and remain in the Teacher Education Program possess the personal, social, and intellectual characteristics required to successfully complete their academic and professional studies and to become effective teachers.

The Teacher Education Admissions Committee then recommends, defers or denies admission to the Teacher Education Program. If the Teacher Education Admissions Committee determines that a candidate exhibits any deficiencies with regard to the above criteria, it may prescribe specific conditions that must be met before full admission is granted. Students who have been denied full admission to the TEP cannot take classes that require TEP admission nor enroll in the teaching internship.

After receiving full admission to the Teacher Education Program, each student's academic progress, personal conduct and professional development will be monitored.

ADMISSION TO THE TEACHING INTERNSHIP

Students will be permitted to enroll in the teaching internship course after meeting the following requirements:

1. Full admission to UVa-Wise Teacher Education Program;
2. A cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or better in all course work completed at UVa-Wise and an overall cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or better from all colleges and universities attended;
3. Satisfactory completion of the professional education courses which are requirements for the prerequisite to the teaching internship.
4. Satisfactory completion of at least six semester hours of course work on the main campus at UVa-Wise;
5. Completion of all general education requirements prescribed by UVa-Wise;
6. Receive the tuberculin test, which can be administered by the College's Health Services nurse or physician. The TB test must be

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completed less than one year prior to the date on which the internship experience will begin;

7. Demonstration of interpersonal skills required to establish and maintain successful professional relationships with the pupils, parents, teachers and supervisors in the school community;
8. Earn a grade of "C" or better in all professional education courses.
9. Submit passing scores for the appropriate PRAXIS II Specialty Area Test.

Students who have appropriate professional work experience and have completed the prescribed course of study may apply for a waiver of the teaching internship. Each application will be considered on an individual basis.

Upon successful completion of the teaching internship and all other requirements for the degree and teaching license, students are advised to complete an application for a teaching license. The licensure application, when completed, must be returned to the Director of Teacher Education and submitted on behalf of the student from UVa-Wise. Applications are available in the Office of the Director of Teacher Education.

APPEAL

A student who is denied admission to the Teacher Education Program or whose full admission status has been rescinded by the Teacher Education Admissions Committee may submit a written appeal to the Academic Dean.

PROFESSIONAL TEACHER'S ASSESSMENT FOR LICENSURE

All prospective teachers seeking initial licensure in Virginia are required to take and submit passing test scores on the PRAXIS I (PPST) and PRAXIS II: Specialty Area test. Scores on all tests must be sent to UVa-Wise and be on file with the Director of Teacher Education before a recommendation for licensure can be transmitted to the Virginia Department of Education. In 2003-04, the aggregate pass rate of the Educational Testing Service PRAXIS I basic skills assessment for UVa-Wise students who have completed the TEP was 95 percent as compared to the statewide pass rate of 99 percent, and the aggregate pass rate of the PRAXIS II academic content areas assessment for UVa-Wise students who have completed the TEP was 100 percent as compared to the statewide pass rate of 98 percent.

The UVa-Wise teacher education program is approved by the Commonwealth of Virginia and by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

TEACHING ENDORSEMENT AREAS

ENDORSEMENTS	GRADE LEVELS
Driver Education (add-on endorsement)	6-12
Elementary Education	Pre-K-6
English	6-12
Foreign Language (French, Spanish)	Pre-K-12
Health and Physical Education	Pre-K-12
History and Social Science	6-12
Library Media	Pre-K-12
Mathematics	6-12
Mathematics - Algebra I (add on endorsement)	6-12
Science	6-12
Biology	
Chemistry	
Earth Science (add-on endorsement)	
Special Education	K-12
Emotional Disturbance	
Learning Disabilities	
Mental Retardation	
Vocational Education	6-12
Business Education	