TEACHER EDUCATION AT LEHIGH

You can earn your bachelor's and master of education degrees plus Pennsylvania teacher certification in elementary or secondary education in just five years total!

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Our Teacher Education program is built around the idea that being an expert teacher requires both deep knowledge of the subject matter and practiced teaching skills. Good teachers have enough content expertise to know what aspects of the subject matter will be especially hard for learners to master and enough teaching experience to know how to adapt their instruction accordingly. For this reason—and unlike other four-year undergraduate education programs—our master's-level teacher education program addresses the art of good teaching after students have completed the depth and breadth of coursework required to get a bachelor's degree in a discipline-specific area. While getting that bachelor's degree here at Lehigh, we can shorten the time it takes for you to add a master's and teacher certification from two years to just one additional year.

PROGRAM ELEMENTS AND CURRICULUM

Our courses explore best practices in inclusive and technology-based teaching and learning and are designed to integrate real-world classroom experiences.

Students in the Teacher Education program learn to use a standards-aligned system where they (1) employ well-communicated and clear standards that evince high expectations, (2) design materials and select instructional resources that align with the standards, (3) design instruction that enables a wide range of students to meet or exceed those standards, (4) confirm student progress using fair assessments that are matched to the standards and (5) recognize and take advantage of instructional interventions to support students having difficulty meeting standards.

Field experiences embedded in courses throughout the curriculum are designed to assure that students are never far from the classroom or other educational setting. This allows teachers-in-training to reinforce what they are learning in their coursework through observation, data collection, one-on-one tutoring or teaching, small group work and whole-class teaching.

The number of credits required will vary depending on the undergraduate degree and area of certification that you pursue. Both the elementary and secondary programs lead to a master's degree (M.Ed. or M.A.) with an Instructional I Certificate that qualifies you to teach in Pennsylvania public schools. Pennsylvania certification is accepted under reciprocity agreements with most other states.

APPLYING

Undergraduate students are initially admitted to the university through the regular application process in the College of Arts and Sciences, the P.C. Rossin College of Engineering and Applied Science or the College of Business and Economics. Students with a minimum cumulative 2.75 GPA can apply any time after their second semester for permission to take education classes in the Teacher Education program.

For more information about the Teacher Education program, visit lehigh.edu/teachereducationprogram

For more information about the Teaching, Learning, and Technology program, email TLTProgram@Lehigh.edu.
HOW MANY STUDENTS ENROLL?
The Teacher Education Program enrolls approximately 20–40 students each year.

WHAT ARE THE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS?
While any student can apply to the program, the student’s area of certification will be heavily influenced by his/her major and minor. Students must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of at least 2.75 each semester and have attained a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 by the end of the fall semester senior year in order to continue on to the fifth year. In addition to Lehigh’s requirements, the Pennsylvania Department of Education requires:

- An undergraduate course work audit by a content area specialist in the certification area (secondary only).
- Assessments in basic skills, general knowledge, professional knowledge and subject knowledge to receive a teaching certification. Students must receive passing scores on all required tests for each certification subject area prior to student teaching.
- Submission upon matriculation and yearly renewal of all of the following clearances:
  - Mantoux Tuberculosis Screening or chest X-ray
  - FBI Federal Criminal History Record (Act 114)
  - PA State Police Criminal Records Check (Act 34)
  - PA Child Abuse History Clearance (Act 151)

Before the teacher candidate can be placed in the schools as part of his/her coursework, the Mantoux or chest X-ray must be negative and all three required criminal background checks must indicate that “no record exists.”

HOW DOES THE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM FIT INTO THE LEHIGH CURRICULUM?
Courses taken for the program while still an undergraduate are in addition to the student’s bachelor’s degree program and are often used to fulfill elective requirements. The program offers either a sophomore- or junior-year start, with sophomores having more flexibility in their schedule.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:
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