

Department of Education

TEACHER
INTERN PROGRAM

A Program for Post-Baccalaureate
Teacher Certification

Susquehanna
UNIVERSITY

Susquehanna University
Department of Education
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MISSION STATEMENT

Forging partnerships for teaching and learning

TEACHER INTERN PROGRAM DESIGN

The Teacher Intern Program is dedicated to a conceptual framework for teaching that includes planning and preparation, classroom management, instruction and professional responsibilities. With a foundation in liberal arts, teacher candidates engage in studies and experiences about educational theory, research, collaboration, reflection and professional development. Current trends, best practices and performance assessment are inherent in the program design, with outcomes that satisfy national, state and local standards of excellence. Academic standards of basic education, program licensure standards, performance standards and the code of professional conduct are also embedded in the Teacher Intern Program through regulation, educational research and professional practice.

TEACHER INTERN PROGRAM LEARNING GOALS

In keeping with the mission and professional frameworks of the Susquehanna University Education Department and the certification standards established by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Teacher Intern Program candidates:

- Will apply content knowledge, decision-making skills and sound judgments inherent in the learning and teaching process.
- Will develop skills and techniques to both communicate in various contexts and to collaborate with educational partners.
- Will exhibit the professional ethics, teaching competencies and personal behaviors required of aspiring educators.
- Will reflect about their professional practice to enhance teaching and learning.
- Will synthesize their research-based best practices during field experiences and student teaching, while producing a summative exhibition of their teaching knowledge, skills and dispositions – the professional portfolio.

Susquehanna University Department of Education

TEACHER INTERN PROGRAM

I. Program Description

In an effort to attract teaching talent in individuals not presently certified to teach, the Pennsylvania Department of Education has approved the Pennsylvania Teacher Intern Program. This program invites holders of baccalaureate degrees to gain teaching credentials by completing professional education courses at an approved Pennsylvania college/university.

Additional information is available at the Pennsylvania Department of Education Web site:
www.teaching.state.pa.us/teaching/cwp/view.asp?a=6&Q=32343

Susquehanna University is pleased to be named as one of the Pennsylvania universities to offer this program. The university's convenient location in east-central Pennsylvania, combined with evening, summer and weekend course offerings, enable interested candidates to complete teacher certification requirements according to their own time demands and schedules.

II. Fields of Certification

Susquehanna University has received program approval from the Pennsylvania Department of Education to offer Teacher Education Certification, through the Teacher Intern Program, in the following fields:

Biology 7-12	Elementary Education K-6	Mathematics 7-12
Chemistry 7-12	Environmental Education K-12	Music K-12
Citizenship Education 7-12	English 7-12	Physics 7-12
Communication 7-12	French K-12	Social Science 7-12
Early Childhood Education K-3	General Science 7-12	Social Studies 7-12
Earth and Space Science 7-12	German K-12	Spanish K-12

III. Criteria for Admission:

The Teacher Intern Program has defined criteria for admission that assess candidates' potential for teaching through the examination of skills, academic preparation, qualifying work experience and the ability to function in a teaching situation.

- Teacher Intern Program candidates must have a baccalaureate degree from an approved college/university, and must satisfy requirements for the academic major as described under the department in the current Susquehanna University catalog.
- Candidates entering a Teacher Intern Program must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 in their baccalaureate degree. Candidates may be admitted with a GPA of 2.8 if they have passed the Praxis I (also called PPST or Pre-Professional Skills Test). Praxis I consists of three tests, one each in reading, writing and mathematics. All candidates must pass Praxis I in order to earn a teaching certificate, but those with a GPA between 2.8 and 2.99 must pass it prior to being admitted to the Teacher Intern Program.
- To be fully accepted into the Teacher Intern Program, PDE 354 requirements must be met. Candidates must have taken six semester hours of college-level mathematics, three semester hours of college-level English composition and three semester hours of college-level English/American literature. If not taken previously, "conditional acceptance" may be granted while these courses are being completed.

IV. To Apply to the Teacher Intern Program

- Complete an application form and return with a \$25 application fee. In addition, a \$15 fee is required for each area of certification requested. Make checks payable to Susquehanna University and send with the application form to:

Wayne F. Heim
Director, Teacher Intern Program
Education Department
Susquehanna University
514 University Avenue
Selinsgrove, PA 17870-1164

- Submit proof of American citizenship (copy of birth certificate or passport), or submit a copy of valid visa with a copy of Declaration of Intent to become a U.S. citizen.
- Submit official transcript(s) from former college(s)/universities. As part of the application process, the candidate's prior college/university transcripts will be reviewed to identify what courses are transferable and if additional coursework and/or professional experiences may be required to meet program guidelines for the candidate's content and pedagogical knowledge.
- Submit recommendations from at least three former professors or recent employers. Letters of recommendation to the Teacher Intern Program should address the candidate's potential for teaching and include references to the following areas:

oral and written skills	academic preparation
qualifying work experience	content mastery
planning skills	classroom management skills
organizational skills	leadership skills
sensitivity to student needs	technology skills

- Submit a personal statement explaining why you wish to become a professional educator.
- Submit an Act 34 clearance. "Request for Criminal Record Check" application forms are available from any state police station or from the Susquehanna University education department.
- Submit an Act 151 clearance. "Child Abuse History Clearance" application forms are available from the Susquehanna University education department.
- Submit an Act 114 FBI Criminal History Report. Register online at www.pa.cogentid.com.
- Complete a personal interview with the director of the Teacher Intern Program.
- Upon evaluation of the personal interview, letters of recommendation, review of the candidate's transcript(s) and a preliminary assessment of teaching competencies that may have been acquired previously, the candidate will be notified regarding admission to the Teacher Intern Program.

V. Education Course Requirements Leading to Secondary Certification (Note: Courses in blocks should be taken together)

EDUC:101	Introduction to Education and Society	2 sem. hrs.
EDUC:102	Historical and Philosophical Foundations of Education	2 sem. hrs.
EDUC:240	Cognition and Classroom Learning (select one)	4 sem. hrs.
EDUC:250	Educational Psychology	4 sem. hrs.
EDUC:330	Technology in Education	2 sem. hrs.
EDUC:380	Instructional Design	2 sem. hrs.
EDUC:400	Methods of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment in Secondary Education Content Area 2	2 sem. hrs.
EDUC:420	Communication	
EDUC:421	English	
EDUC:422	Foreign Languages	
EDUC:423	Math	(select course in area of certification)
EDUC:424	Science	
EDUC:425	Social Studies	
EDUC:426	Social Sciences	
EDUC:427	Citizenship	
EDUC:479	Principles of Learning and Teaching in Secondary Education	2 sem. hrs.
EDUC:483	Differentiated Instruction and Classroom Management in Secondary Education	2 sem. hrs.
EDUC:500:TI	Student Teaching:	(12 sem. hrs. total)
EDUC:501	Planning and Preparation	4 sem. hrs.
EDUC:502	Instruction	4 sem. hrs.
EDUC:503	The Classroom Environment	4 sem. hrs.

VI. Education Course Requirements Leading to Elementary and Early Childhood Certification

EDUC:101	Introduction to Education and Society	2 sem. hrs.
EDUC:102	Historical and Philosophical Foundations of Education	2 sem. hrs.
EDUC:240	Cognition and Classroom Learning (or)	4 sem. hrs.
EDUC:250	Educational Psychology	4 sem. hrs.
EDUC:330	Technology in Education	2 sem. hrs.
EDUC:374	Methods of Math Instruction	4 sem. hrs.
EDUC:375	Literacy I	4 sem. hrs.
EDUC:377	Literacy II	4 sem. hrs.
EDUC:380	Standards-Based Curriculum and Assessment	2 sem. hrs.
EDUC:476	Principles of Learning and Teaching in Elementary Education	2 sem. hrs.
EDUC:481	Methods of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment in Elementary Education	2 sem. hrs.
EDUC:482	Differentiated Instruction and Classroom Management	2 sem. hrs.
EDUC:500:TI	Student Teaching:	(12 sem. hrs. total)
EDUC:501	Preparation and Planning	4 sem. hrs.
EDUC:502	Classroom Teaching	4 sem. hrs.
EDUC:503	Classroom Management	4 sem. hrs.

Because of state requirements, additional course work may be required of elementary certification candidates in the areas of the arts, biology/ecology, environmental science, history, public speaking, American government, communications, psychology, or human geography. Any additional coursework required will be determined during the transcript review process.

Those wishing to extend their elementary education certification to include **early childhood education** would also take the following courses (4 sem. hrs. each):

EDUC:384 Introduction to Early Childhood Education

EDUC:485 Methods of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment in Early Childhood Education

PSYC: 238 Developmental Psychology: Conception Through Childhood

VII. Registration Information

When registering for any course, always indicate that you are enrolled in the Teacher Intern Program to receive the intern tuition rate. Identify the director of the Teacher Intern Program as your advisor. First-time registration requires completing a form for the Office of the Registrar. Except for the Methods course and student teaching, candidates may meet the above requirements through transfer of similar course work previously earned from other accredited colleges/universities and approved by Susquehanna University. Approved teacher intern candidates who wish to complete some requirements at other colleges must secure approval from the director of the Teacher Intern Program prior to enrolling in “outside” courses. All teacher intern candidates will already hold a baccalaureate degree. Most will have completed a major in an academic field relating to the teaching certification area. For those who need additional courses to complete an approved major, the additional course work must meet Susquehanna University’s requirements for the intended major.

Teacher interns may enroll in day classes; however, they may not “displace” undergraduate students. If undergraduate enrollment fills a class to the section limit, the class will not be available to teacher interns.

While it is the intent of the university to offer all professional education courses within each 12-month period, availability of classes will depend on individual courses meeting required minimum enrollment levels. Please be advised that classes are offered only when there is sufficient enrollment.

VIII. Letter of Intern Candidacy

Upon acceptance into the Teacher Intern Program, the candidates will receive a Letter of Intern Candidacy. This letter may be used as an introduction to school officials. It explains that you are enrolled in the Susquehanna University Teacher Intern Program and that you may be eligible for employment on a Teacher Intern Certificate issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. This certificate is active for three calendar years (non-renewable), during which time all course/certification requirements must be completed.

IX. Teacher Intern Certificate

To obtain a Teacher Intern Certificate, candidates must take and pass the Praxis Series NTE (National Teacher’s Examination) tests. Required tests include: Praxis I Pre-Professional Skills Tests (PPST) in reading, writing and mathematics; and the Praxis II content area test in the appropriate subject area. All K-6 and K-12 certification areas must also complete the Praxis Series Fundamental Subjects: Content Knowledge test.

X. Student Teaching

Student teaching, as a teacher intern, requires a minimum of 12 weeks. These are full-time assignments and are arranged through the director of the Teacher Intern Program. School sites for student teaching are planned early in the semester prior to the actual teaching experience. School sites are selected from school districts within a 50-mile radius of Susquehanna University. The university's teacher intern supervisors will observe the interns a minimum of four times, and intern student teachers will attend a minimum of four afternoon or evening seminars on the university campus. The Student Teaching Notebook is required for the student teaching experience and may be purchased through the director of the Teacher Intern Program. The development of a professional portfolio is a program exit requirement.

Prior to student teaching, candidates must have a tuberculosis screening and must secure current Act 34 (Criminal History Check), Act 151 (Child Abuse History) and Act 114 (FBI) clearances.

Candidates must achieve satisfactory ratings (from a university supervisor) on assessments of their student teaching experience.

Upon successfully completing all program requirements with a GPA of 3.0 or higher, teacher interns are then eligible to apply for an Instructional I Teaching Certificate through the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

XI. Fees

All teacher intern course work will be charged at the teacher intern rate. Tuition costs are subject to change according to university increases.

Tuition costs for Teacher Intern Program courses will be published in the Susquehanna University Bulletin, available at the Office of the Registrar.

NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY: Susquehanna University does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, national or ethnic origin, age, gender or disability in its educational programs, admission practices, scholarship and loan programs, athletics, other school-administered activities or employment practices. This is in compliance with the requirements of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, regulations of the Internal Revenue Service, and all other applicable federal, state and local statutes, ordinances and regulations. Compliance inquiries may be directed to the Assistant to the President, Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove, Pa 17870-1025, 570-372-4426; or to the Director of the Department of Education, Washington, D.C.

**Susquehanna University Department of Education
TEACHER INTERN PROGRAM APPLICATION**

PERSONAL INFORMATION

DATE: _____

NAME _____ SOCIAL SECURITY # _____ - _____ - _____

HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____ CELL PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____

CERTIFICATION AREA DESIRED _____

EDUCATION BACKGROUND

Degree(s) Completed _____ Date(s) Awarded _____

College Major _____ Minor _____

	Name of School	Location	Dates Attended
College (s)	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____
Secondary	_____	_____	_____

Extra curricular activities – college:

NON-SCHOOL EXPERIENCE (full- or part-time employment)

Position	Employer	Dates
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

