

**College Of Education and Human Services
University of Wisconsin Oshkosh
Alternative Careers in Teaching Program (act!)**

Admission to the act! program

(Phase I of act!)

This is the first phase in developing a professional teaching portfolio. An applicant must meet the following requirements by the end of Phase I:

- ___ official transcripts from a completed Bachelor's degree in science, mathematics or a related field with an overall GPA of 2.5 or greater (tab 5)
- ___ 5 years of work experience past the Bachelor's degree (Resume, tab 5)
- ___ a personal letter (statement) indicating your reasons for becoming a licensed teacher (tab 4)
- ___ meet with the act! Coordinator to discuss your academic qualifications, your life experiences, and the course work and obligations for participants in the act! program (tab 7)
- ___ evidence of a clear criminal background check (tab 1)
- ___ evidence of a negative TB test (tab 1)
- ___ Take PRAXIS II Subject Assessment* in either General Science (test code 0435) or Mathematics (test code 0061)* (tab 6)
- ___ one recommendation from a University Instructor outside the education department (tab 2)
- ___ one recommendation from a significant adult (tab 3)

Phase I also requires evidence of completing courses on the following topics or evidence of comparable learning from life experience. Graded coursework from these and other courses will be included in your professional portfolio – **save all graded assignments!**

- ___ Speech Communication with a grade of C or better (e.g. Comm 111) [other evidence tab]
- ___ Introduction to Education (e.g., Sec/Edu 201) [standards tab]
- ___ Satisfactory completion of the human relations requirement (30 hours) [tab 10]
- ___ Educational Psychology (e.g., Education 330) [standards tab]
- ___ Child and Adolescent Development (e.g., Edu 300) [standards tab]
- ___ Math or Science content courses as needed [standards tab]

Admission to the College of Education and Human Services at UW Oshkosh

(Phase II of act!)

This is the second phase in developing a professional portfolio. Applicants will produce a professional portfolio for review and evaluation by a panel of three experts to determine if an applicant has sufficient content and pedagogical knowledge, and adequate teaching dispositions prior to student teaching. The panel reserves the right to require an applicant to complete additional coursework or field experiences if necessary. An applicant must complete the following requirements by the end of Phase III:

- ___ successful completion of all Phase I requirements
- ___ evidence of passing scores on the Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Test (PPST)‡, a test of basic knowledge in reading, writing and mathematics (eligibility tab)
- ___ evidence of passing scores on the Praxis II: Content Knowledge Test (eligibility tab)

Approved: 12/06 by 1
COEHS, M. Beeth

- ___ evidence of a curriculum unit you planned and taught as part of your methods course (standards tab)
- ___ positive evaluations of teaching by Cooperating Teacher and University Supervisor
- ___ a reflection on your field experience that addresses student learning, classroom management and changes to your instructional methods (standards tab)
- ___ completion of all content and education courses except student teaching (standards tab)
- ___ a grade point average of 3.0 or greater for all courses taken in Phase I and Phase II

Phase II also requires evidence of completing courses on the following topics or evidence of comparable learning from life experience. Graded coursework from these and other courses will be included in your professional portfolio – **save all graded assignments!**

- ___ Orientation (e.g., Edu 202) [standards tab]
- ___ Methods of teaching science or mathematics (e.g., Sec Edu 339 or Sec Edu 314) [standards tab]
- ___ Reading methods (e.g. Read 440) [standards tab]

‡Passing scores on the PPST are required before admission to student teaching. Students may retake parts of the PPST for which passing scores have not been met. You may take the Computerized PPST only once per calendar month, and no more than 6 times within a 12 month period. Students who have not met this requirement are not eligible to student teach. Minimum passing scores for the PPST set by the State of Wisconsin are: Reading-175; Writing-174; Math-173

***PRAXIS II Subject Assessments**

The Praxis II: Subject Assessment is a test that measures subject matter knowledge. It *is not* an exam about how you teach . It is an exam that assesses your knowledge about the content you will teach. The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) has established passing scores for each test. A passing score for General Science is 154, and for Mathematics, a passing score is 135. You must provide evidence that you have passed the appropriate test(s) before you apply for student teaching.

Admission to Student Teaching
(Phase III of act!)

Students are eligible to apply for student teaching after the panel of experts approves the professional portfolio submitted at the end of Phase III. All student teaching placements will be made through the Office of Field Experiences at UW Oshkosh.

An applicant must meet the following requirements by the end of student teaching:

- ___ successful completion of a full semester of student teaching
- ___ positive evaluations of teaching by Cooperating Teacher and University Supervisor
- ___ a Pre-Professional Development Plan approved by the Cooperating Teacher and University Supervisor
- ___ an Educational Autobiography/Personal Philosophy of Education (tab 5)
- ___ a Professional Resume or Curriculum Vitae (tab 5)
- ___ other evidence of content knowledge or pedagogical expertise (standards tab)
- ___ submit an interview portfolio

Interview portfolio - This is the final phase of portfolio development. After successfully completing student teaching, and prior to graduation and licensure, students select items from their professional portfolio to use when applying and interviewing for teaching positions:

Teacher licensure - Applicants are eligible to apply for a teaching license upon successful completion of a full semester of student teaching and submission of the Exit Portfolio. To apply for a teaching license please follow these simple directions:

1. Ensure that all your prerequisite courses are completed and that your student teaching grades have been submitted by your supervisor.
2. Go to the DPI web site dpi.wi.gov/tepd/index.html
3. Click on "License Applications."
4. Carefully read the general directions provided before you begin.
5. Look for Form PI1602-IS.
6. Print this document.
7. The Conduct and Competency Review must be notarized.
8. Send the application with your \$100 remittance to the

Office of Field Experiences
College of Education and Human Services
800 Algoma Blvd
Oshkosh, WI 54901

9. The Director of Field Experiences will collaborate with the respective credit examiner or program coordinator on your license eligibility. When we have their endorsement, we sign the application and send it to the DPI.
10. If you want a Verification of Program Completion form to take to a potential or current employer to show your license is being processed, please let me know by way of a note on the license. Tell the Office of Field Experiences where you would like that form sent.
11. After the license leaves my office, it will take approximately two weeks to be listed on DPI Website. Your license will arrive in 8 - 10 weeks. You can check to see if your license has been processed by clicking on Educator License Search using the URL listed in #2 above.

Remember that the processing time for your teacher license can be as long as three months from the time it leaves your hands so plan accordingly.

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