

Admission and Certification Requirements for Level I Professional Certification

STEPS LEADING TO FORMAL ADMISSION AND TEACHER CERTIFICATION TRACK

Washington and Jefferson College is a liberal arts college with programs leading to a Bachelor of Arts Degree. The education department at Washington and Jefferson College offers separate programs in the following certification areas:

- Grades PreK-4
- Grades 4-8
- Secondary Education 7-12
- Specialty Areas of Education PreK-12
- DUAL Special Education: Candidates may *add-on* special education in PreK-8 for main matching certification areas for grades PreK-4 and 4-8. Candidates may add on 7-12 secondary dual special education in main matching certification areas for grades 7-12. Students seeking PreK-12 specialty certification areas may add on special education by selecting one of the grade bands PreK – 8 or 7 – 12 to their certification area.

Information involving education department programs is available in the Washington & Jefferson College Education Department office. Students interested in teacher certification must complete the following steps. Anyone may take an education course as an elective with the permission of the course instructor but students then must **apply for ADMISSION into the Program with the permission of the Committee on the Teaching Profession (COTP) to be considered a candidate for teacher certification.** After successfully completing the following requirements *by the end of their sophomore year*. Students seeking formal admission into the program must fulfill the following requirements.

- Completed the sophomore year of college coursework or equivalent (48 credit hours).
- Earned a C or better grade in at least six semester hours (two courses) or the equivalent in college level mathematics and six semester hours in college level English (two courses- one compositions and one literature). Qualifying courses must be the same as those qualifying for Bachelor of Arts degree).

- Acquiring a 3.0 cumulative Grade Point Average or above at Washington & Jefferson College including a 3.0 GPA average or above in all education courses with a current transcript on file in the education office.
- Pass required qualifying exams and have passing scores from each test on file in the Education Office.
- Current **“no record”** status for FBI, Act 34, Childcare-Act 151, & Negative TB Clearances – originals on file in the Education Office. FBI, Criminal Record, Childcare clearances, and TB clearances must be updated yearly postmarked on or before June 1 for seniors, June 15 for juniors and July 1 for sophomores, before the fall semester. Yearly membership in PSEA (Pennsylvania Student Education Association) for internships: <http://www.psea.org/students.aspx?id=154> ***Students apply for clearances in May to avoid being put on the waitlist for incompleteness of clearance prerequisites for their education classes.***