INTENT

Student Entry and Retention in Teacher Education (SERTE) is a set of procedures and standards for completing teacher education programs at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania. Through this policy Edinboro University ensures that its graduates meet the quality standards that are advocated at national and state levels for the preparation of teachers.

POLICY

A student admitted to a teacher education curriculum is subject to a formal evaluation process while enrolled in the teacher education program which includes the following levels: foundation level, competency development level, student teaching level, and certification level. Part of the formal evaluation process includes successful completion of the Communication Skills Test and General Knowledge Test portions of the National Teacher Examination. A student enrolled in a teacher education program must earn a grade of C or better in each course in the student's major field, including required supporting content area courses and professional education courses as identified for graduation and teacher certification in each teacher education program. Courses specifically identified as supporting courses in the various curricula are identified in the University catalogue.

Enrollment in the Foundation Level of Teacher Education

An undergraduate student seeking certification should declare a teacher education major upon admission to the University. At the time of admission to a teacher education program, the SERTE Foundation Level Form must be completed. The form must be filed through the advisor with the Dean of Education by the end of the first semester of enrollment in teacher education. Formal acceptance to the Foundation Level of Teacher Education requires submission of the SERTE Foundation Level Form.
Both the undergraduate student who changes from a non-teacher education curriculum to a teacher education curriculum and the post-baccalaureate student who is seeking teacher certification are advanced to the foundation level of teacher education upon completion of the SERTE Foundation Level Form.

Advancement to the Competency Development Level of Teacher Education

Upon earning 64 undergraduate credits, the student completes the Competency Development Level Form. The following nine requirements must have been fulfilled to advance to the Competency Development Level and to enroll in the Level II field experience. The student must have:

1. Earned a minimum undergraduate cumulative quality point average of 2.50.
2. Completed the course ED271 Education in American Society with a grade of C or better.
3. Successfully completed a Level I field experience as required by the individual's curriculum with a C or better grade while at the foundation level of teacher education. One of the following courses appropriate to the curriculum must be completed as a prerequisite to the Level I field experience requirement: EE150, EX295, ED250, HP276, or ME417.
4. Achieved a passing score on the standardized Communication Skills Test and the General Knowledge Test portions of the National Teacher Examination. Transfer students with more than 64 credits and certification students should complete this requirement by the end of their first semester of enrollment.
5. Tested negatively for tuberculosis.
7. If enrolled in an EE, ECE, EMPH, or MPH program, completed, with a grade of C or better, the course EE302 Teaching Reading.
8. If enrolled in Secondary Education, completed a minimum of 18 credits in course work in the student's major field.
9. Completed, with a grade of C or better, either the course AP213 Human Learning or the course GC213 Educational Psychology.

Students must satisfy items 1 through 9 to enroll in the Level II field experience.

Advancement to the Student Teaching Level of Teacher Education

A student who has advanced to the Competency Development Level of teacher education completes an application for advancement to the Student Teaching Level. Upon completion of the following requirements, the student will be advanced to the Student Teaching Level. The student must have:

1. Completed at least 96 semester hours of undergraduate credit.
2. Maintained an undergraduate cumulative quality point average of at least 2.50.
3. Completed, with a grade of C or better, the educational measurement course required within the individual's curriculum (EX313, ED381, EE380, HP324).

4. Completed, with a grade of C or better, the Level II field experience course required in the individual's curriculum and have a recommendation from the field supervisor to advance to student teaching.

5. If enrolled in Secondary Education, completed, with a grade of C or better, a course in the teaching of reading in the student's program (ED306) Teaching of Reading in the Subject Area.

6. Completed, with a grade of C or better, the methods of teaching courses(s) required in the individual's curriculum;

   or

7. Completed, with a grade of C or better, the required methods courses which the students' major department deems necessary to be successful in student teaching.

In order to enroll as a student teacher, a student must:

1. Complete the Advancement to Student Teaching Level Form and obtain the approval signatures of the advisor and the appropriate department chair.
2. File the signed Advancement to Student Teaching Level Form with the Dean of Education.
3. Present a copy of the signed Advancement to Student Teaching Level Form to the Director of Student Teaching upon requesting a student teaching placement.
4. Possess a minimum cumulative 2.50 QPA prior to beginning student teaching.

Advancement to the Certification Level of Teacher Education

In order to be recommended to the Pennsylvania Department of Education for teacher certification by Edinboro University, the student must:

1. Have an earned bachelor's degree or equivalent in an approved program of teacher education.
2. Possess a minimum cumulative 2.50 QPA.
3. Achieve a passing score on the core battery and specialty areas of the National Teacher Examination or other tests as required by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.
4. Earn a grade of C or better in student teaching.

Exceptions

An exception to the above procedures must be authorized in writing by the Dean of Education.