Community College Updates
WSU Elementary Education Licensure Program

I. New Admission Requirement – Elementary Education program only
College BASE test with a passing score of 235 (minimum) on each of the four areas, i.e., social studies, science, English, and mathematics.

Contact Lynda Cushman in the WSU Department of Curriculum and Instruction at (316) 978-3322 for information on test dates, test location and testing fees.

The College BASE test is a criterion-referenced examination designed to evaluate academic achievement in core college curriculum: English, mathematics, science, and social studies. The test provides a means of assessing candidate subject matter competencies based on the KSDE elementary education licensure standards.

Note: This requirement does not replace the PPST requirement at this time (see below).

II. General Education Coursework Required
A. Basic Skills (existing requirements)
   1. English Composition 1 (grade of C or better)
   2. English Composition 2 (grade of C or better)
   3. Public Speaking or course equivalent (grade of C or better)
   4. College Algebra or higher level math course (grade of C or better)

B. Additional Course Requirements (existing requirements)
   1. General Psychology
   2. Elementary Statistics

C. New Specifications Related to General Education Coursework
   1. Any American history course
   2. Any geography course that addresses global geographic patterns
   3. Any anthropology or sociology course
   4. Any life science course
   5. Any earth and space science coursework if electives available

Students must have at least a 2.75 GPA in 35 hours of general education coursework

III. Program Application Due Dates
Faculty will begin reviewing applications for admission to the elementary teacher education program on April 1 for the subsequent fall admission (i.e., enrollment). The review of applications will continue until all openings have been filled. Similarly, faculty will begin reviewing applications for admission to the elementary teacher education program on October 1 for the subsequent spring admission (i.e., enrollment). Applications will be processed in date-of-receipt order and the review of applications will continue until all openings have been filled. Waiting lists will be maintained so prospective students are encouraged to send applications on an ongoing basis.
IV. Teacher Education Admission Requirements Effective Fall 2005

New requirements:
A. 500-word essay
B. Faculty/student interview
C. Documented 100 clock hours of supervised time spent with children or adolescents (see attached)
D. Two confidential reference forms from individuals who supervised all or a portion of the documented 100 hours
E. Satisfactory scores on the College BASE exam (see section I.)

These existing requirements are in addition to new requirements listed above:
F. English Composition 1 (grade of C or better)
G. English Composition 2 (grade of C or better)
H. Public Speaking (grade of C or better)
I. College Algebra or a higher level math course (grade of C or better)
J. General Psychology
K. Elementary Statistics
L. Introduction to the Teaching Profession course (grade of B or better)
M. PPST passing scores (minimum passing scores: 172 math, 173 reading, 172 writing)
N. 2.75 GPA in 35 credit hours of general education course work
O. 2.5 Overall GPA
P. 2.5 WSU GPA (if applicable)

V. Administration of Admission Requirements

A. 500-word essay.
Students are to compose a short essay in which they describe their suitability for teaching profession. Essays should not exceed 500 words. Students should spend an hour, maximum, on their essay. The essay must be completed using a word processor and must be double-spaced using 12-size lettering, Times New Roman font, and have one-inch margins. Spelling and mechanical errors should be minimal. Essays should discuss the following points: why they want to teach, their strengths and weaknesses in fulfilling the role of the teacher, their background/history of working with children/adolescents and their reflective comments on the role of the teacher in the present-day, diverse school system. Essay prompts and other related instructions are posted on the WSU teacher education web site (www.wichita.edu/education).

B. Faculty – student interview.
After submission of the teacher education application packet, the prospective candidate will be contacted for a faculty – student interview. Two Wichita State teacher education faculty members will conduct the 15-minute interview via telephone. The interview will consist of nine questions that pertain to general questions about the prospective candidate, some specific questions about what makes the candidate a good choice for acceptance into the teacher education program and becoming an effective teacher, and a set of specific questions related to the age level or content area that the candidate wants to teach. Faculty – student interviews will typically be held during the latter part of April (spring semester) or the latter part of October (fall semester). There is no interview form or additional paperwork to be submitted as part of the student’s application packet.
C. 100 clock hours of supervised time with children or adolescents.
Using the form provided in the Teacher Education application packet, students are to identify themselves with their complete and formal name(s), and then LEGIBLY they are to indicate the dates of the activity they are referencing, an accurate estimate of hours spent on tasks, the Site/Agency they worked for, describe the activities they were involved with in a brief but clear manner and provide the name and telephone number of their supervisor(s).
The 100-hour documentation form is available in the TE application materials packet and on the WSU teacher education web site (www.wichita.edu/education). Note: Unsupervised childcare is not an acceptable activity to list in the compilation of 100 clock hours.

D. Two confidential reference forms.
Two confidential reference forms must be submitted with each student’s teacher education application packet. The reference form letter is available in the TE application materials packet and on the WSU teacher education web site (www.wichita.edu/education).
Completed form letters are to be placed in sealed envelopes with the supervisor’s signature written on the envelope seal. The reference form material is confidential and not to be shared with the student applicant. Reference forms are to be written by individuals who observed and were cognizant of the prospective student’s attitudes and abilities when working with children and/or adolescents.

Please see enclosed Teacher Education application packet.
(Remind students to include copies of transcripts and test scores with application materials.)

Submit a complete application materials packet to:
Teacher Education Admissions
Education Support Services, 113 Hubbard Hall
Wichita State University
1845 Fairmount, Campus Box #131
Wichita, KS 67260-0131

VI. Early Childhood Unified (ECU) Candidates Must Be Admitted to the Elementary Education Program; ECU Candidates Accepted Only Fall Semesters

A. Students desiring to pursue the early childhood unified endorsement must be admitted to the elementary education degree program and earn the elementary education endorsement as well as the early childhood unified endorsement.

B. Elementary education students who desire to pursue the early childhood unified endorsement must begin the teacher education program during the fall semester only.