Licensure/Certification Program Changes

The Kansas State Board of Education approved new licensure/certification regulations and standards in 2002 that have required significant changes in all school personnel preparation programs in the State, including those at WSU. Immediately, upon final approval of the new standards, the faculty at WSU began work reviewing and redesigning programs to meet the new standards for the preparation of school personnel, including teachers. Because these programs at WSU are currently under revision to meet regulation changes, it is critical that students keep in contact with their academic advisors.

Students completing programs designed to prepare school professionals under licensure standards in effect before July 2003 must complete all requirements for licensure recommendation before the end of Spring 2006. Those completing programs and other licensure requirements after Spring 2006 must have completed programs designed to meet (new) licensure standards in effect as of July 2003. To ensure students intending to pursue Kansas licensure as teachers or other school personnel complete the correct coursework, meetings with academic advisors are highly recommended.

Licensure/Certification Assessment Changes

Consistent with national trends and as part of recently approved licensure/certification regulations and standards for school personnel, the Kansas State Board of Education has implemented new testing requirements. Beginning July 1, 2003, all individuals recommended for a Kansas school personnel license/certificate/endorsement must, along with a passing score on the Principles of Learning and Teaching test (teachers only), take a “content” test. Specific content tests and related passing scores have not yet been set by the Board (test identification expected December 2002). Beginning July 1, 2005, a passing score on both the PLT (teachers only) and the content tests will be required.

For individuals recommended for a teaching license/certificate beginning July 1, 2003, a post-program “performance” assessment will also be required during the early years of practice to obtain a full professional license. The Board has yet to define this assessment, although a passing score will be required beginning Fall 2005. For those recommended for a specialist/advanced license beginning January 1, 2004, a supervised internship will be required during the early years of practice.