

Teacher Education Admission Requirements

Admission to Peru State College does not equate with admission to Teacher Education. To initiate the process of admission into Teacher Education, the candidate is required to file a formal application as part of EDUC 209 Teacher Education Orientation and meet or exceed all necessary admission requirements. Once the admission requirements have been met, the Teacher Education Committee reviews each candidate for admission into teacher education. Candidates will be notified in writing if they have been fully admitted or denied admission into teacher education by the Teacher Education Committee. The Teacher Education Committee meets on a regular basis during the Fall and Spring semesters.

Candidates who transfer credit from another institution, or candidates who hold a bachelor's degree and are seeking only a teaching endorsement, should apply to Teacher Education during their enrollment in EDUC 209 Teacher Education Orientation, which is the first course taken for teacher education at Peru State College. This course cannot be met through transfer coursework – all teacher education candidates must take this course from PSC.

Applicants must meet the following criteria and conditions prior to review for admission by the Teacher Education Committee:

1. Applicant must have fewer than two disposition deficiencies on file in the School of Education.
2. Applicant must possess an overall grade point average of at least 2.5 with at least 54 credits completed.
3. Applicant must possess minimum scores on the Pre-Professional Skills Test (PPST) as indicated below. (More information is provided below.)
4. Applicant must arrange and complete two face-to-face interviews with Peru State College full time faculty members who are in a position to assess the candidate as a prospective teacher. One interview must be completed with a faculty member who represents the individual's chosen endorsement/content area. The completed interview forms are used as a means of faculty recommendation to the program.
5. Applicant must successfully complete pre-requisite course work prior to receiving admission to Teacher Education. The following courses must be successfully completed: EDUC 208, EDUC 209, EDUC 255, SPED 200, and PSYC 250. Please visit with an advisor for additional information.
6. Applicant must provide evidence of proficiency in English Composition and Mathematics as indicated by a grade of C or above in college level courses or scores at or a minimum score of 26 on the English and Mathematics sections of the ACT, or 800 on the SAT.
7. Applicant must complete and pass a Background Check, as provided through OneSource.

8. The Nebraska State Department of Education’s Rule 21 requires that the following regulation and appeal process be in effect:

Once a candidate is admitted to Teacher Education, he/she is expected to remain **continuously enrolled** in the program, as evidenced by registering for one or more courses each fall and spring term. Should a candidate fail to remain consistently enrolled in his/her teacher education program and defer taking courses for more than one concurrent semester, he/she may be required to meet the current requirements of the program, if they are substantially different from the original program of study under which the candidate began.

Pre-Professional Skills Test (PPST)

While we encourage students to register and take the Pre-Professional Skills Test during the freshman year of college, registration for the PPST should occur no later than the semester during which EDUC 209 Teacher Education Orientation is being completed. Candidates who postpone EDUC 209 are still advised to register for the PPST as soon as possible to ensure passing scores for admission to Teacher Education. Registration for the PPST can be completed by visiting www.ets.org to register for the exam online.

When filling out the PPST application, candidates should request that official score report be sent directly to Peru State College. Scores typically are received by Peru State College within two to three weeks of the test date. Candidates should contact the School of Education to verify receipt of test scores approximately three weeks after the test date. The minimum passing scores for the PPST are as follows:

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| Reading | 170 | The Praxis Series Reading | 316 |
| Math | 171 | The Praxis Series Math | 316 |
| Writing | 172 | The Praxis Series Writing | 318 |

Candidates who do not meet these minimum scores will be required to re-register and attempt to score the minimum requirements for certification in the State of Nebraska. One exception exists for earning the minimum score for all exam sections, which is the PPST Waiver approved by the Nebraska Department of Education (Title 92, Chapter 23). The waiver requires the candidate to successfully pass two of the three exam sections, be within one point of passing the third section, and earn a composite (combined) score of at least 513. This will require one of the two passing sections to have a score above the minimum score required by NDE. Should a candidate meet the criteria for the PPST waiver, he/she will be notified by the School of Education and will not need to retake the third section of the exam.