



Post Baccalaureate Teacher Certification Visually Impaired [Blind and Partially Sighted] (Birth – Grade 12) Orientation and Mobility Certificate

6/7/2011

Career Preparation

Missouri State University's Education Program, the largest and only one of its kind in Missouri, provides experiences that prepare students to become effective teachers. A comprehensive field-based component is part of this exciting program. Teachers who have completed a Missouri State University (MSU) Education program are generally considered to be highly qualified, successful classroom teachers. High-need areas currently include: Special Education, Math, Science, and Foreign Language. Post-Baccalaureate students who have had significant experience either in the classroom or with children are often considered more qualified and are frequently hired before those without the experience.

Academic Program

The Post-Baccalaureate (Post-Bac) Education programs require satisfactory completion of competencies outlined by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). MSU offers several alternative routes to teacher certification which include: Post-Baccalaureate, Masters, and Provisional certification. All programs rely on coursework completed within an initial Bachelor's degree. Professional Education courses are sequenced to provide both study in the university setting and practical experience in classrooms.

Courses

Students pursuing Post-Bac Teacher Certification at Missouri State need to submit original official transcripts from all universities, colleges, and institutions previously attended. Prior coursework will be evaluated and credit will be granted and applied for all equivalent certification requirements.

An Individualized Program of Study (IPS) will be provided to the student. The IPS is reviewed during an advising session. If a course was not initially determined to be equivalent, but may have provided the competencies required for certification, the student may submit a course description/syllabus for re-evaluation.

Faculty and Staff Support

The Teacher Certification and several faculty offices are located in Hill Hall. Faculty members are actively involved in teaching, research, and service activities at the local, state, and national levels. While faculty may informally advise students, the Teacher Certification Advisement staff will provide the support and official advisement for all Post-Bac students pursuing teacher certification.

Facilities

Missouri State University is fortunate to have Greenwood Laboratory School located on campus. Greenwood, a K-12 facility, provides students in the College of Education with first-hand experience in observing and working with students. The technology labs, located in Hill Hall, have the most recent innovations in instructional technology and are available for use by Education students.

Special Services

The University and the College of Education are committed to the success of each student. Career Services, in cooperation with the College of Education, takes an active role in assisting Education students by providing information about teaching opportunities. Students are encouraged to meet with Career Services for job search assistance.

For More Information

Teacher Certification Office
Missouri State University
901 S. National Ave.
Springfield, MO 65897
Office: 417-836-8772 Fax: 417-836-5008
email: teachercertification@missouristate.edu
www.missouristate.edu/certification

Required Coursework:

Blind and Partially Sighted (Birth-Grade 12) / Orientation and Mobility Certificate revised 6/7/2011

Blind and Partially Sighted (Birth – 12)

In response to the state-wide shortage of teachers trained to work with Visually Impaired students, Missouri State University has developed a state-wide alternative certification program which allows both currently certified teachers and candidates with a bachelor's degree, but no certification, to earn their initial certification in Visually Impaired (Blind and Partially Sighted) Birth-Grade 12.

A GPA of 2.50 (Missouri State University and transfer combined) must be maintained throughout the program. No grade lower than a C is acceptable in any professional education course.

Professional Education Coursework for Currently Certified teachers required to add Certification in Visually Impaired

**(Must begin coursework in a Summer or Fall semester)
These courses are only offered online**

Summer

SPE606	Principles of Orientation and Mobility	3 hours
SPE607	Intro to Visual Impairments, Autism and Severe/Multiple Disabilities	3 hours

Fall

SPE605	Braille Reading and Writing I	3 hours
SPE608	Low Vision, Anatomy & Physiology of the Eye	3 hours

Spring

SPE709	Methods of Teaching Students with Visual Impairments & Multiple Disabilities	3 hours
SPE711	Braille Reading and Writing II	3 hours

Available Fall or Spring

SPE789	Practicum: The Exceptional Child	3 hours
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Total 21 hours

Praxis II Exam: #0543

Praxis II Exam: #0281

Additional Education Coursework and Praxis II exam required for Non-Certified candidates to earn initial Certification in Visually Impaired:

Note: These courses can be taken at any College or University with a state – approved teacher education program. Please contact the Teacher Certification office for approval prior to enrollment in courses at another institution.

EDC350	School and Society	3 hours
Choose One:		3 hours
SPE310	Introduction to Special Education	
SPE715	Foundations in Special Education	
Choose One:		3 hours
PSY360	Educational Psychology	
PSY703	Human Growth and Development	
Choose One:		3 hours
RDG318	Foundations of Reading Instruction	
RDG700	The Relationship of Language to Reading and Intellectual Development	

Total 12 hours

Master of Science in Education (MSED) in Special Education

Students who wish to earn an MSED degree while pursuing Visually Impaired Certification must complete additional graduate hours in consultation with their Graduate Advisor to reach a minimum of 32 graduate credit hours.

Total 32 hours

Orientation and Mobility Certificate

Additional coursework required to be eligible for the National Certification in Orientation and Mobility Examination

SPE606*	Principles of Orientation and Mobility	3 hours
SPE608*	Low Vision, Anatomy and Physiology of the Eye	3 hours
SPE712	Instruction Techniques and Strategies of Orientation and Mobility	6 hours
SSPE714*	Professional Issues and Related to Orientation and Mobility with Diverse Populations	3 hours
SPE671	Clinical Practicum in Special Education	3 hours

ACVREP Exam Required for Certificate

*Offered Via Internet

Total 18 hours