

TEACHER CANDIDACY

2023-2024

Northwestern State University

School of Education

Office of Teacher Candidacy & Certification

TEC Pod B, Room 108

318-357-6144

Suzanne G. Williams
Coordinator of Student Services
for Graduation & Licensure
suzanne@nsula.edu

Kathy Shaw
Administrative
Assistant II
shawk@nsula.edu

Admission to Teacher Candidacy

Admission to Candidacy for a degree in Teacher Education is a formal step in the teacher preparation process. Requirements associated with this step are designed to provide evidence that can be used to assess the students' potential for success in a teaching career.

Teacher education majors must be admitted to candidacy for a degree in teacher education prior to enrolling in courses which require admission to teacher candidacy. Students must complete an application for admission to teacher candidacy. The applications are available in Pod B of the Teacher Education Center. Requirements for admission to candidacy are checked when the application is submitted and updated at the end of each semester.

Requirements for admission to candidacy for a degree in teacher education:

- 1. Complete EDUC 2020, ECED 2020 or MUED 2020 and 30 hours of coursework in your Education degree program.**
- 2. Have a 2.5 cumulative GPA. A minimum 2.50 is also required for RETENTION in Teacher Candidacy.**
- 3. Complete all courses with a minimum grade of "C" in the teacher candidate's degree plan. In addition, a minimum grade of "C" is also required for RETENTION in teacher candidacy.**
- 4. Evaluation of Candidate by course instructors:**

School of Education candidates will be evaluated while enrolled in Professional Education courses. Instructors assess candidates' professional skills and dispositions as seen during classes, discussions, assignments, assessments and field experiences.

- 5. Submit a CLEAR national background check.**
- 6. Initiate and complete an application form for admission to candidacy.**

NOTE: The Louisiana Department of Education WILL NOT certify persons who have been convicted of a felony.

CHECK YOUR NSU E-MAIL ON A DAILY BASIS. This is how the university communicates with you.

PRAXIS Information

Please ensure that your Social Security Number is on ALL PRAXIS registration forms. That is how the LA Department of Education identifies your scores.

- 1. Passing scores on PRAXIS Subject Assessments: Principles of Learning and Teaching and Content test for your teaching area are required for enrollment in Residency. Contact your advisor for information regarding when you should take these tests.**

Register at www.ets.org

.....

Please request that your PRAXIS scores are sent to NSU AND the Louisiana Department of Education.

NSU PRAXIS recipient #:	6492
LA Dept. of Education recipient #:	7330

For additional information, go to: www.ets.org

PRAXIS Study Resources

There are numerous resources available to support test takers in preparing for Praxis exams. Below is a list of some available resources. This list is not comprehensive, and this is not an endorsement of any of these resources.

- Tutoring 240 is a Praxis tutoring program that will help you study for and pass the Praxis. It is being offered to NSU students at half price-\$20 a month, with a projected completion of 2 months. There is a money back guarantee- if you make a 90% on the materials and you don't pass the Praxis test, the company will refund your money. Please email Dr. Katrina Jordan at jordank@nsula.edu if you would like an invitation to join the program.

Learning Express Library offers online tests and test prep resources. Most public libraries subscribe to this site, so you can access it at no charge with your library card. <https://learningexpress.com>

EZ PRAXIS Prep Tutors offers online tutoring, diagnostic assessments, sample tests, and study guide planning. <http://praxistutoring.com>

Teachers Test prep offers free Praxis Study Guides, full-length Praxis Practice Tests with diagnostics. For a fee Teachers Test prep offers Prep Classes, One-on-One Tutoring, and on-demand Online Prep programs featuring instructional videos, virtual tutoring, and more. <https://www.teacherstestprep.com>

Exam Edge offers full-length practice exams: <https://www.examedge.com>

Google "PRAXIS" help" and for other PRAXIS study links.

NOTE: Be sure that you prepare for the TEST NUMBER of the PRAXIS II test/s that you plan to take. There are many PRAXIS tests, but Louisiana only requires/accepts the ones found on the LOUISIANA link on the ETS website.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT IN INK

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT FORM
(All questions must be answered)

NAME OF APPLICANT: (Include First, Middle, Maiden, and Married)	Social Security Number: _____-_____-_____
ADDRESS:	DATE OF BIRTH:

<i>Each Question must be answered:</i>	<i>Please Check</i>	
	YES	NO
1. Have you ever had any professional license/certificate denied, suspended, revoked, or voluntarily surrendered? If YES , in whichstate? _____		
2. Are you currently being reviewed or investigated for purposes of such action as stated in #1 or is such action pending? If YES , in whichstate? _____		
3. Have you ever been convicted of any felony offense, been found guilty or entered a plea of <i>nolo contendere</i> (no contest), even if adjudication was withheld? If yes, please provide the following information: Date of Conviction: _____ State of Conviction: _____ Court Jurisdiction of Conviction: _____		
4. Have you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor offense that involves any of the following: a. Sexual or physical abuse of a minor child or other illegal conduct with a minor child. b. The possession, use, or distribution of any illegal drug as defined by Louisiana or federal law.		
5. Have you ever been granted a pardon or expungement* for any offense as stated in #3 or #4?		



NOTICE---EXPUNGEMENTS, FIRST OFFENDER PARDONS, PRE-TRIAL DIVERSIONS: Criminal Background Checks (CBCs) conducted for purposes of employment will be conducted in accordance with La. R.S. 17:15 and La. R.S. 15:587.1. Pursuant to Louisiana law R.S. 15:587.1., background checks shall disclose **ALL ARRESTS, COURT ACTION and CONVICTIONS, (Including but not limited to expungements, first offender pardons and pre-trial diversion), and a copy of the report shall be provided to the Louisiana Department of Education (LDE), in addition to the potential employer or LA Education Agency (LEAs)s.**

***Per BESE policy set forth in Bulletin 746, Louisiana Standards for State Certification of School Personnel, Section 903.C, "failure to disclose actions such as first offender pardons, pre-trial diversion, expungements, etc. is grounds for certification denial and/or revocation."**

If you answered "YES" to any questions, #1 through #5, you must provide court **certified** copies of all documents and proceedings, civil records of Federal, State and/or District School Board actions, or other relevant documents that provide full disclosure of the nature and circumstances of **EACH** separate incident in your application packet.

I affirm and declare that all information given by me in the responses to items #1 through #5 above is true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any misrepresentation of facts, by omission or addition, may result in criminal prosecution and/or the denial or revocation of my teacher certificate. I agree that my electronic signature as entered below is the legal equivalent of my manual signature on this document.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT:	DATE:
-------------------------	-------

NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

I acknowledge receipt of the requirements for Admission to Teacher Candidacy, Residency, and Graduation.

Name: _____

NSU student i.d.: _____

Major _____

Advisor: _____

Course/Section : _____

Instructor: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____