Norfolk State University

School of Education Center for Professional Development (CPD)

"Preparing Competent, Compassionate, Collaborative and Committed Leaders"

MILESTONES TO COMPLETING A TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

Freshman Year

- Hold a conference with your advisor to devise a plan of study.
- Read the college catalog at http://www.nsu.edu_catalog/
- Prepare to take the basic proficiency exam, Praxis Core Skills for Educators—
  www.ets.org/praxis if you are not exempt as indicated below.
- Praxis preparation information: http://www.nsu.edu/education/praxis-student-success/index
- The Praxis Lab is located in the Bozeman Education Building, Room 161.
- Students enrolled in EDU 201 or EED 274 or first methods course taken at NSU and student teachers
  must have a Universal Background Check completed and submitted to the Center for Professional
  Development office (BEB 221).

Praxis I Options:

**Option 1:** Passing the Praxis Core Skills for Educators Assessment (Reading, Writing, Mathematics).

The Praxis Core qualifying scores are Reading 156, Writing 162, Math 150. There is no
composite passing score for the assessment.

**Option 2:** Qualifying SAT or ACT scores

SAT AS A SUBSTITUTE TEST FOR PRAXIS CORE SKILLS FOR EDUCATORS ONLY

SAT was approved by the Board of Education as a substitute test for Praxis Core (Reading,
Writing, and Mathematics) required for initial licensure. The board approved the following
scores:

- If you took the SAT before 4/1/1995—and had a score of 1000 with at least 450 on the verbal and
  510 on the math tests, you are exempt from Praxis Core.

- If you took the SAT after 4/1/1995—and had a score of 1100 with at least 530 on the verbal and
  530 on the math tests, you are exempt from Praxis Core.

ACT AS A SUBSTITUTE TEST FOR PRAXIS CORE SKILLS FOR EDUCATORS ONLY

ACT was approved by the Board of Education as a substitute test for Praxis Core (Reading,
Writing, and Mathematics) required for initial licensure. The board approved the following
scores:

- If you took the ACT before 4/1/1995—and had a composite score of 21, with the ACT math score
  no less than 21, and an English Plus Reading score no less than 37, you are exempt from Praxis
  Core.

- If you took the ACT after 4/1/1995—and had a composite score of 24, with the ACT math score
  no less than 22, and an ACT English Plus Reading score no less than 46, you are exempt from
  Praxis Core.

**Option 3:** Passing the Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment (VCLA) (Reading—with
a score of 235 and Writing—with a score of 235) individually or with a composite score
of 470 AND passing the Praxis Core Skills for Educators—Mathematics individually
with a score of 150, you are exempt from Praxis Core.

Please note the passing scores for Reading for Virginia Educators (RVE) effective July 1, 2011:
Elementary and Special Education Assessment is 157. Reading Specialists Assessment is 162.
These tests replace the Virginia Reading Assessment (VRA) and Virginia Reading Assessment for
Reading Specialists (VRA for Reading Specialists)

- Continuously meet the School of Education expectations of academic requirements and professional dispositions.

**Sophomore Year**

- Complete freshman year activities as listed in the University’s catalog and in your curriculum sheet.
- Complete the **EDU Foundations of Education course** and **Level I observation field experience**. Enroll in the **Tk20 Assessment System**.
- Submit documented 10 hours of Level I teacher observation—see Handbook at: www.nsu.edu/schools/education/pro.html
- Enroll in **Seminar in Assessment and Evaluation course** (EED/SED 233 if you need to pass Praxis I).

**Requirements to Apply for Admission to the Teacher Education Program**

Submit a binder to include:
- Teacher education application;
- Evidence of a passing score on Praxis Core Skills for Educators, SAT, or ACT tests (see required scores at [http://www.ets.org/s/praxis/pdf/passing_scores.pdf](http://www.ets.org/s/praxis/pdf/passing_scores.pdf));
- Evidence of having passed the **English Writing Competency (EWC)** examination;
- Complete Level I—10-hour Observation Experience (Documented in Tk20);
- Show earned 60 semester hours of credit with a 2.5 grade-point average in total hours attempted at NSU in your major and in all college work attempted; no grade below C;
- **Submit**:
  - two current letters of recommendation;
  - a typed autobiography;
  - your written philosophy of education statement; and
- **Universal Background Check**

Submit application to Teacher Education (CPD) [https://www.nsu.edu/education/cpd/index](https://www.nsu.edu/education/cpd/index)

Confer with your **advisor** for the guidelines used to complete your binder.

**Interview and receive acceptance to Teacher Education Program**

**Admission to Student Teaching**

- Submit Documented Passing Scores on all assessments: VCLA, Praxis II, and RVE (if applicable to program) along with a completed application to include:
- A current negative TB test results, academic evaluation with advisor and department head’s signatures;
- **Universal Background Check**

Submit application by October 31st for spring student teaching and by March 15th for the fall experience. (See application for student teaching at: [https://www.nsu.edu/education/cpd/forms](https://www.nsu.edu/education/cpd/forms))

See CPD webpage for student teaching handbook, forms, and reports.
Submit all required student teaching reports and documents to the CPD.

Throughout the Program

- Complete the Methods of Teaching in your content area and other teacher licensure courses.
- Submit documented completion in Tk20 of at least 40 hours of Level II Observation/Participation (20 or more hours per methods course) See Level II Observation/Participation handbook at: https://www.nsu.edu/education/cpd/forms.
- Demonstrate technology proficiency—you will find the technology standards at http://www.doe.virginia.gov/support/technology/standards/index.shtml.
- Meet expectations of academic requirements, teaching skills, and professional dispositions.
- Pass the Praxis II (Content Area Exam, Reading for Virginia Educators (RVE) for Elementary and Special Education majors), Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment (VCLA) for initial licensure before submitting student teaching application. For RVE and VCLA see Reading Assessment at www.va.nesinc.com.

Apply for Teacher Licensure

Submit the following to the Center for Professional Development during the week of graduation:

- Application for Initial License and College Verification forms—see VA license application forms at: http://www.doe.virginia.gov/teaching/licensure/application.pdf;
- Check written to Treasurer of Virginia for $50 if in-state resident and $75 if out-of-state resident;
- Copies of Praxis Core Skills for Educators Assessment/SAT/ACT, Praxis II, RVE, VCLA scores (where applicable) and certificate for Child Abuse and Intervention Training;
- Request an official transcript to be sent to CPD after degree is posted; and
- Ensure that all test scores, all field experience documents (clock hrs.), and evaluations are in Tk20 via the CPD.