

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Mission:

Founded in 1857 to prepare teachers, Illinois State University is the state's first public university. Illinois State is unique among public universities in that it provides statewide leadership in identifying the needs of Illinois schools and, through coordination with other colleges and universities, in developing and delivering programs tailored to meet them.

Teacher Preparation Programs:

- 31 BA/BS Programs leading to state teacher certification.
- 12 graduate-level certification programs.
- Ed.D. and/or PhD. in education in six programs.

Student Characteristics:

Illinois State University served 17655 undergraduate and 2449 graduate students, 5463 were new students this year. Our student enrollment includes students from 50 states and territories and 64 foreign countries. 57.5% of the undergraduate population is female and 12.3% represent minority populations.

Graduated 1076 teacher candidates with bachelor degrees.
Granted master's degrees to 210 teachers or administrators
Granted 36 doctorates in teacher education.

Admissions Requirements:

Admission to Teacher Education Program: Candidates are expected to meet sixteen requirements which include passing the ISBE Basic Skills Test, having a minimum GPA of 2.5, major departmental requirements, and specific performance assessments in the areas of dispositions, communications, and technology.

Admission to Student Teaching: Candidates are expected to meet seventeen requirements which include passing the ISBE Content Area Test, GPA requirements, departmental requirements and specific performance assessments in the areas of dispositions, communications, technology, literacy, working with diverse students, and field experiences.

Accreditation:

The Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA-CIHE) since 1913 and the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) since 1954 have accredited ISU. All programs are fully approved by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) and nationally recognized by specialized professional associations. The most recent NCATE/ISBE joint review took place in November 2003 with a five day site visit.

Teacher Education Vision:

Illinois State University's goal is to prepare teachers who have a strong sense of themselves and their mission as teachers and who, through caring and knowing, help their students realize the democratic ideal.

Best Practices:

- Secondary education teachers earn a major in the discipline.
- Elementary teachers complete an 18-hour specialty in an academic area.
- Middle level teachers complete an NMSA approved program, with two or more areas of specialization in an academic discipline.
- Special education candidates complete year-long field experiences in partner schools.
- University/school partnerships: year-long Professional Development School (PDS) experiences in Wheeling, Elgin, Pekin, Chicago, Peoria, Springfield, Bloomington, and Normal.
- All teacher candidates complete early experiences at the University Laboratory K-12 School, one of only 85 laboratory schools in the nation.

Notable Features and Accomplishments:

- Home of state professional organizations, including Illinois Principals Association, Illinois Association of School Administrators, Illinois Association of Teachers of English, Illinois Women Administrators; state home of Illinois Special Olympics.
- Faculty consists of scholars and creative artists of repute in their disciplines and pedagogical specialists in disciplines that offer teacher certification programs.
- University rewards the scholarship of pedagogy by faculty.
- One in eight teachers in Illinois public schools graduated from Illinois State, the largest producer of teachers in the state, and consistently among the 10 largest producers in the nation
- Largest preparer of elementary teacher and special education teachers in the nation. (AACTE data)
- Only Illinois institution of higher education to offer all special education certification areas (Learning/Behavior, Deaf, and Vision) and one of two approved Director of Special Education certification programs.
- College of Education acquired 44% of the entire amount of grants and contracts received by the University.
- The Chicago Teacher Education Pipeline Project was honored as the 2008 recipient of The American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE) *Best Practice Award in Support of Global Diversity and Inclusion*.
- Member of the prestigious Holmes Partnership, University Council for Education Administration, and National Network for Educational Renewal (NNER).
- Home of Special Education Assistive Technology Center providing assistive technology skills to all teacher education majors and advanced training for special educators and the Autism Spectrum Institute providing statewide professional development to educators and support to families.
- Publisher of the Illinois State Education Law and Policy Journal, Planning and Changing, and "The Grapevine", a national report on state appropriations for higher education.

Program Information for Illinois State University 2007-2008	
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S.1 Total number of students admitted into teacher preparation, all specializations, in academic year 2007-2008	4633
S.2 Number of candidates in supervised student teaching in academic year 2007-2008	1118
S.3 Number of faculty members who supervised student teachers:	
➤ S.3A Full-time faculty in professional education	40
➤ S.3B Part-time faculty in professional education but full-time in the institution	11
➤ S.3C Part-time faculty in professional education, not otherwise employed by the institution	116
S.4 Total faculty student teaching supervisors	167
S.5 Student teacher/faculty ratio (Divide total given in S.2 by the number given in S.4)	6.7:1
S.6A The average number of student teaching hours per week	36
S.6B The total number of weeks of supervised student teaching required	15
S.7 Average total number of hours required	540