

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

River Forest, Illinois

2003-2004 Title II Report

Mission:

As a distinctive, comprehensive university of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, centered in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and based in the liberal arts, Concordia University equips men and women to serve and lead with integrity, creativity, competence, and compassion in a diverse, interconnected, and increasingly urbanized church and world.

Teacher Preparation Programs:

Concordia University offers five baccalaureate programs and five graduate-level programs leading to state teacher certification in Early Childhood, Elementary, Secondary, and Special Education.

Student Characteristics:

Over 1100 students are enrolled in Concordia's teacher preparation programs. Approximately seventy percent of Concordia education students attend full time, 76% are Illinois residents, and approximately 15% are minority students. The median ACT score for Fall 2003 freshman education students was 22.

Admission Requirements:

Admission to Teacher Education: Candidates must have a cumulative 2.5 (undergraduate) or 3.0 (graduate) GPA, completed 20 pre-professional clinical hours, passed the Illinois Test of Basic Skills, completed an initial portfolio assessment, and been approved by the Teacher Education Admissions Committee (TEAC).

Admission to Student Teaching: Candidates must have completed prerequisite courses with at least a 3.0 GPA for the graduate program and a 2.5 GPA for the baccalaureate program, fulfilled the education technology requirement, completed a mid-level portfolio assessment, been approved by the TEAC, passed the content area certification test, and have completed 100 pre-professional clinical hours in diverse educational settings; specifically multicultural, special education, and public and non-public schools.

Accreditation:

Concordia University is fully accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). The teacher education programs at Concordia are approved not only by NCATE and the Illinois State Board of Education but also by numerous national professional associations.

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Teacher Education Vision:

Concordia University provides high-quality programs that prepare teachers to have integrity, competence, and commitment to servant-leadership.

Best Practices:

- Concordia University programs offer academic rigor within a standards-based curriculum that is assessed through candidate performance in diverse educational settings
- Caring professional relationships enhance the learning environment developed between faculty and students
- Small class sizes provide personalized opportunities for learning.
- Recent advances in technology are used as important tools to support teaching and learning.
- The Concordia University student integrates theory and practice through the infusion of early introductions to field experiences in public and non-public schools, and in special education and multicultural settings throughout the Chicagoland area.

Notable Features and Accomplishments:

- Concordia University offers a Doctor of Education degree with specializations in two areas: Educational Leadership which prepares candidates for leadership roles in the field of education, and Early Childhood Education which provides candidates with advanced training in leadership and methods applicable to children from birth to grade 3.
- Nine Golden Apple Awards for excellence in teaching have been awarded to graduates of Concordia University's Teacher Preparation Program since 1988, including most recently a 2001 Golden Apple Award winner.
- Concordia University's Early Childhood Center, an on-campus laboratory school, provides education candidates with opportunities to learn from experiences with children from birth to age eight.
- Concordia University graduates have been nationally recognized for excellence in teaching and leadership.
- Concordia University is actively engaged in community partnerships throughout the Chicagoland area.
- Concordia University continues to show significant collateral support for its signature programs. In October 2002, the University dedicated the Christopher Center for Learning and Leadership. The Christopher Center is a 75,000 square-foot, state-of-the-art facility which houses the College of Education and its Early Childhood Center.

**Program Information for Concordia University
2003-2004**

S.1 Total number of students admitted into teacher preparation, all specializations, in academic year 2003-2004	1100
S.2 Number of students in supervised student teaching in academic year 2003-2004	138
S.3 Number of faculty members who supervised student teachers:	
➤ S.3A Full-time faculty in professional education	4
➤ S.3B Part-time faculty in professional education but full-time in the institution	8
➤ S.3C Part-time faculty in professional education, not otherwise employed by the institution	19
S.4 Total faculty student teaching supervisors	31
S.5 Student teacher/faculty ratio (Divide total given in S.2 by the number given in S.4)	2:1
S.6A The average number of student teaching hours per week	37.5
S.6B The total number of weeks of supervised student teaching required	12
S.7 Average total number of hours required	450