

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT SPRINGFIELD
Springfield, Illinois **2003-2004 Title II Report**

Mission:

The University of Illinois at Springfield emphasizes public affairs instruction, research, and service carried out through community partnerships that contribute to social progress, governmental effectiveness, educational excellence, and economic development.

UIS is committed to addressing the needs of both traditional and nontraditional learners and reflecting cultural diversity in both the curriculum and the university community. UIS encourages appropriate innovative approaches to fulfilling these institutional aims.

Teacher Preparation Programs:

The University of Illinois at Springfield offers, at present, certification in Elementary Education and Secondary English, Math, Science, and Social Science. Students either enter with, or earn, a degree in the liberal arts at the same time they are working on certification.

Student Characteristics:

The average undergraduate age is 29, and average graduate age is 35. Fifty-seven percent of UIS students attend part-time and 43% full-time. Fifty-seven percent of the student body are undergraduates, 42.5% are master's students, and .5% are doctoral students. Of the total student body, 59% are female, 17% are minorities, and 5% are international.

Admission Requirements:

Admission to Teacher Education: Candidates must formally apply to the program with a 2.5 GPA and passing scores on the Illinois Basic Skills exam. In addition, candidates must satisfy a set of prerequisite requirements before being admitted.

Admission to Student Teaching: Students must have completed at least 120 clock hours of approved pre-student-teaching clinical experiences, have passed the content area certification exam, have a 2.5 GPA overall, a 2.75 GPA in their major, and a GPA of 3.0 in their professional education courses. Department approval is required.

Accreditation:

The University of Illinois at Springfield is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The Illinois State Board of Education approves all of the University of Illinois at Springfield's teacher preparation programs.

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Teacher Education Vision:

Teacher education at the University of Illinois at Springfield prepares reflective practitioners who are proficient in academic content and professional skills. Candidates understand the nature of development and learning, are professionally responsive to issues of diversity and civic responsibility, and are active decision makers and critical thinkers. Candidates in teacher education are prepared to function in the future technological school/educational setting.

Best Practices:

- Students seeking initial certification complete a major in an arts or science discipline.
- Attention to diversity is a key component of curriculum in teacher education.
- Students entering the program are required to engage in service learning activities consistent with the University's public affairs focus.
- Competency in the use of technology is integrated into and expected in all courses offered in teacher education.
- Teacher Education curriculum advocates constructivist practices and approaches.
- The clinical component emphasizes collaboration, reflection and professionalism.

Notable Features and Accomplishments:

- Full-time faculty in the program hold the highest degree in their field and are active participants in National, Regional, and Local professional organizations.
- All full-time faculty hold tenure or are on the tenure-track. All faculty have significant experience in public and/or private school settings.
- Project Mid-state Support for Teaching is in its fifteenth year of providing support to minority teacher education candidates through collaboration with area schools and community colleges.
- UIS is in the fifth year of a multimillion GearUp Grant in partnership with Lincoln Land Community College, Springfield Urban League, and School District 186.

**Program Information for University of Illinois at Springfield
2003-2004**

S.1 Total number of students admitted into teacher preparation, all specializations, in academic year 2003-2004	288
S.2 Number of students in supervised student teaching in academic year 2003-2004	77
S.3 Number of faculty members who supervised student teachers:	
➤ S.3A Full-time faculty in professional education	2
➤ S.3B Part-time faculty in professional education but full-time in the institution	
➤ S.3C Part-time faculty in professional education, not otherwise employed by the institution	12
S.4 Total faculty student teaching supervisors	14
S.5 Student teacher/faculty ratio	1/6
S.6A The average number of student teaching hours per week	40
S.6B The total number of weeks of supervised student teaching required	12
S.7 Average total number of hours required	480