

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Mission:

Tracing its roots to the 1897 founding of the Bible Institute of the Swedish Evangelical Free Church of America, Trinity International University includes Trinity College, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, and Trinity Graduate School on its Deerfield campus as well as Trinity Law School in California and a degree-completion and graduate program at the Trinity College-South Florida campus. The university's mission is *Forming Students to Transform the World Through Christ.*

Teacher Preparation Programs:

The School of Education offers seven BA programs leading to initial state certification in its traditional program. Trinity offers a non-traditional program leading to a BA with elementary education certification. Candidates with BA degrees may earn elementary and secondary certification through the MA/T program or a certification only program. Candidates may earn a Type 75 certificate through the Master of Education in Instructional Leadership.

Student Characteristics:

Most candidates are of traditional college age; 96% attend full-time and 52% are Illinois residents. Thirty-one percent (31%) of the students identify themselves as outside the "white, non-Hispanic" designation.

Admissions Requirements:

Admission to Teacher Education Program: Candidates must hold a 2.5 GPA, earn grades of "C" or above in education courses, pass the Illinois Test of Basic Skills, present an entrance-level portfolio, and complete the interview process including an acceptable writing sample and self-assessment of dispositions.

Admission to Clinical Practice: Candidates must hold a 2.5 GPA, a 2.75 ED-GPA, pass the appropriate content-area test, submit a developmental portfolio, meet all disposition and field experience requirements, pass a fingerprint-based background check, and be recommended by the School of Education and the Dean of Students.

Accreditation:

Trinity International University is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Trinity's teacher education programs are approved by the Illinois State Board of Education. Trinity is a member of the Christian College Consortium and holds membership in the Council of Christian Colleges and Universities.

Teacher Education Vision:

"Teaching as a Mission: Touching Lives One Student At a Time"

Our goal is to prepare highly qualified Christian teachers who view teaching as a mission; they nurture their students, reflect critically on their practice, and facilitate learning experiences designed to maximize the potential of all students.

Best Practices:

- Methods classes are standards-aligned and include a field component allowing development of course assignments to be completed in school settings.
- Candidates develop a professional portfolio aligned with Illinois and national standards during their first education course. The portfolio continues to be developed throughout their teacher education program and is a significant assessment at program completion.
- Candidates in clinical practice design, complete, and present an action-research project focusing on student learning.
- Candidates complete the Classroom Organization and Management Program from Vanderbilt University as part of the professional semester of clinical practice.

Notable Features and Accomplishments:

- A 1999 graduate was recently selected as a finalist for the 2006 Golden Apple Award of Excellence in Teaching.
- A 1995 graduate, named the Sallie Mae Illinois First Class First Year Teacher of the Year for the 1996-97 school year, has completed a terminal degree program and now serves on the School of Education's Advisory Council.
- Trinity International University was the recipient of the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities 2006 Racial Harmony Award.
- Trinity's School of Education is a participating institution in the *Golden Apple Scholars* program.
- Trinity education graduates regularly seek advanced study and enter leadership positions in schools. Several graduates of color have taken formative roles in newly established charter schools in urban settings.
- Trinity's location allows candidates the opportunity to complete field and clinical experiences at schools in suburban, urban, and rural settings.
- Candidates develop peer partnerships with individuals with exceptionalities through a collaborative program with the North Suburban Special Education District.

Program Information for Trinity International University 2004-2005	
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S.1 Total number of students admitted into teacher preparation, all specializations, in academic year 2004-2005	129
S.2 Number of candidates in supervised student teaching in academic year 2004-2005	97
S.3 Number of faculty members who supervised student teachers:	
➤ S.3A Full-time faculty in professional education	10
➤ S.3B Part-time faculty in professional education but full-time in the institution	3
➤ S.3C Part-time faculty in professional education, not otherwise employed by the institution	24
S.4 Total faculty student teaching supervisors	37
S.5 Student teacher/faculty ratio (Divide total given in S.2 by the number given in S.4)	2.62:1
S.6A The average number of student teaching hours per week	30
S.6B The total number of weeks of supervised student teaching required	14
S.7 Average total number of hours required	420