

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Teacher Preparation Programs:

The University currently offers one teacher preparation program, a Master of Arts in Teaching degree in elementary education that also results in elementary education certification. This Urban Teacher Education Program is currently only open to undergraduates enrolled at the University of Chicago. It begins in the senior year with a three-quarter course sequence. Following graduation with a Bachelor's degree (in a field other than education), the program continues with five additional quarters of work including a full-year clinical internship, and graduates are supported for two full years as new teachers.

Student Characteristics:

All of the students in the Urban Teacher Education Program begin their coursework as undergraduates at the University of Chicago. The first cohort, in their internship during 2004 was made up of 9 females with a range of concentrations in human development, psychology, history, Spanish, English literature, sociology, and religious studies. Two of the candidates are students of color. The second cohort, also with nine students, is made up of 3 males and 6 females. Three candidates of this group are students of color. The areas of concentration are similar to the previous cohort but also include philosophy, mathematics, and chemistry. A third cohort of 12 students is comprised of three males and six students of color.

Admissions Requirements:

Admission to Teacher Education Program: Admission to Teacher Education: candidates must possess strong written and oral communication skills, have some experience working in schools or with children, and have evidence of a strong commitment to social justice. Normally, candidates must have at least a "B" average in their College courses, and be recommended by a faculty member as well as someone who can witness to their involvement with children and to their moral character.
Admission to Student Teaching: [← \(start typing here\)](#)

Accreditation:

- University of Chicago is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.
- Educational Unit and professional preparation programs are accredited by the Illinois State Board of Education.

Teacher Education Vision:

Reflective school professionals using their knowledge and experience and the results of their research to foster health human development and meaningful learning.

Best Practices:

The Urban Teaching Education Program is based on the work of the Literacy Collaborative and emphasizes a balanced approach to literacy instruction with embedded assessments and a variety of practice in situations requiring reading and writing. Clinical experiences (including student teaching) take place in schools with strong commitments to balanced literacy and to a school community that supports social, emotional, and physical well-being as essential supports to academic learning. Clinical Instructors (mentor teachers) are considered adjunct faculty and receive guidance and training in coaching and in successful approaches to supporting new teachers. Graduates of the program are supported for two full years through the University's New Teacher Network induction program.

Notable Features and Accomplishments:

The Urban Teacher Education Program graduated its first cohort of students in the Summer of 2005.

**Program Information for University of Chicago
2004-2005**

S.1 Total number of students admitted into teacher preparation, all specializations, in academic year 2004-2005	9
S.2 Number of candidates in supervised student teaching in academic year 2004-2005	9
S.3 Number of faculty members who supervised student teachers:	
➤ S.3A Full-time faculty in professional education	0
➤ S.3B Part-time faculty in professional education but full-time in the institution	2
➤ S.3C Part-time faculty in professional education, not otherwise employed by the institution	0
S.4 Total faculty student teaching supervisors	2
S.5 Student teacher/faculty ratio (Divide total given in S.2 by the number given in S.4)	9/2-4.5
S.6A The average number of student teaching hours per week	32
S.6B The total number of weeks of supervised student teaching required	40
S.7 Average total number of hours required	1280