

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Mission:

Blackburn College, founded in 1837 and affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (USA), provides a coeducational student body with a rigorous, distinctive, and affordable liberal arts education that prepares graduates to be responsible, productive citizens. The Blackburn community values critical and independent thinking, leadership development, respect for all individuals, and lifelong learning. The college fosters a sense of service, community, and moral responsibility through its unique student-managed work program, its collegial concept of shared governance, and its faculty/staff mentor relationship with students.

Teacher Preparation Programs:

The emphasis of the Department of Education is on providing candidates with the professional education coursework and field experiences needed for Illinois certification in Elementary Education (K-9), Secondary Education (6012), or Special Certificate (K-12). The Department of Education offers eight different certification designations:

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|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Visual Arts Education (6-12) | 5. Secondary English (6-12) |
| 2. Physical Education (6-12) | 6. Secondary Mathematics (6-12) |
| 3. Secondary Social Science Education: History (6-12) | 7. Elementary Education (K-9) |
| 4. Secondary Science Education: Biology (6-12) | |

Student Characteristics:

The majority of students at Blackburn College are of traditional college age with gender distribution of 53% female, 47% male. Of all students, 97.4% attend full-time, and 10.7% are of ethnically diverse backgrounds. Approximately one-fourth (166) of the 605 students attending Blackburn College are enrolled in the Teacher Education Program.

Admissions Requirements:

Admission to Teacher Education Program:

1. Cumulative GPA 2.50 or higher
2. Evidence of passing IL Basic Skills Test
3. Grade of C or better in CO111 and CO112
4. Grade of C or better in all ED courses
5. Evidence of completion of 35 hours of ED100 field experience
6. Evidence of IL State Police Criminal Background Check
7. Submit Dispositions Evaluations
 - a. Self-evaluation
 - b. Evaluation from ED100 faculty
 - c. Work Program Manager Evaluation (if applicable)
8. Completed Application to Teacher Education Program
9. Advisor signature on Teacher Education Program Application
10. Submit Portfolio Artifacts (Grading rubrics must be submitted with artifacts; all artifacts must be graded at the acceptable or target level.)
 - a. Artifact 1: Lesson Plan (assignment from ED100)
 - b. Artifact 2: IPTS Reflections (assignment from ED100)

Admission to Student Teaching:

1. Cumulative GPA of 2.50 or higher
2. Grade of C or better in all required ED courses; course and grade
3. Grade of C or better in all required certification designation content courses
4. Evidence of passing the IL Content Area test
5. Evidence of completion of all field experience hours required for specific certification designation
6. Submit Disposition Assessments
 - a. Professional Dispositions Assessment Instrument (Self)
 - b. Professional Dispositions Assessment Instrument (ED240)

- c. Professional Dispositions Assessment Instrument (Methods course, specific to program)
 - d. Professional Dispositions Assessment Instrument (Cooperating Teacher, secondary education candidates only)
 - e. Professional Dispositions Assessment Instrument (Work Program Manager)
7. Observation of current student teacher
 8. Completed Application to Student Teaching
 9. Advisor Signature on Student Teaching Application
 10. Submit Portfolio Artifacts:
 1. Portfolio Artifact 3: Diversity Field Experience Reflection
 2. Portfolio Artifact 4: Observation Reflective Paper
 3. Portfolio Artifact 5: IEP
 4. Portfolio Artifact 6: Presentation of Teaching Strategies
 5. Portfolio Artifact 7: Classroom Management Plan
 6. Portfolio Artifact 8: Individually Constructed Assessments
 7. Portfolio Artifact 1: Philosophy of Education
 8. Portfolio Artifact 10: PowerPoint Electronic Project
 9. Portfolio Artifact 11: Unit Plan
 10. Evidence of IL State Police Criminal Background Check

Accreditation:

Blackburn is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. All of the college's teacher preparation programs are approved by the State Board of Education.

Teacher Education Vision:

- In its Teacher Education Program Blackburn College seeks to affirm its fundamental belief that a liberal arts education, in connection with its unique student-managed work program, provides candidates with the best preparation for a rapidly changing school situation. We believe teaching is a dynamic field of human endeavor, and we strive to prepare teachers who are able to critically and consistently assess, improve, and enhance their teaching techniques and content knowledge.
- The Department of Education is committed to a strong teacher preparation program designed to cultivate candidates' personal commitment to excellence in teaching by preparing caring and reflective classroom educators, who use their professional knowledge and skills to facilitate student learning and promote positive educational experiences for all students.

Best Practices:

The emphasis of the Department of Education is on providing candidates with the professional education coursework and field experiences needed for state certification. Candidates will have the opportunity to acquire essential knowledge, skills and dispositions for initial teaching certification. The department welcomes a diversity of cultures, needs and ideas to promote the rigorous learning environment and scholarship required of all candidates. Each of the programs is designed to promote candidates' personal commitments to excellence in teaching. By developing these commitments, graduates of Blackburn College's education programs will be endowed with the necessary skills and dispositions to enhance K-12 student learning.

Notable Features and Accomplishments:

- Blackburn College is one of seven work colleges in the country and the only one that is student-managed, providing students with extensive and meaningful hands-on work experience prior to graduation.
- The work program offers candidates the opportunity to work in K-12 educational settings as their campus work position.
- In their first education course, Education candidates participate in 35 hours of hands-on tutoring with K-12 students.
- The teacher education programs are significantly involved in both formal and informal partnerships with local K-12 schools.

Program Information for Blackburn College 2005-2006	
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S.1 Total number of students admitted into teacher preparation, all specializations, in academic year 2005-2006	14
S.2 Number of candidates in supervised student teaching in academic year 2005-2006	38
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	0
➤ S.3C Part-time faculty in professional education, not otherwise employed by the institution	6
S.4 Total faculty student teaching supervisors	8
S.5 Student teacher/faculty ratio (Divide total given in S.2 by the number given in S.4)	4:3
S.6A The average number of student teaching hours per week	40
S.6B The total number of weeks of supervised student teaching required	15
S.7 Average total number of hours required	600