

**CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION**

***Mission:***

Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU) is a commuter university, dedicated to both excellence and access. It offers high quality programs to a broad spectrum of students. NEIU is also dedicated to diversity and community partnerships. Because of its location in the Chicago metropolitan area, the university serves a population which is diverse in age, culture, language, and race. This diversity, a major asset, means that the academic programs utilize a variety of perspectives to enrich the teaching and learning experience and to prepare students for the multi-culturalism which characterizes our society. NEIU's mission also emphasizes arts education and international education.

***Teacher Preparation Programs:***

NEIU's College of Education (COE) offers 14 baccalaureate and seven graduate certification programs. Teacher candidates who hold a Bachelor's Degree can pursue certification through the Teacher Certification Program (TCP). Bilingual, English as a Second Language (ESL), and Middle School endorsements are offered for certain certificates.

***Student Characteristics:***

Fall 2006 NEIU data document a student enrollment of 12,056. Of these, 55.9% of undergraduate students and 16.6% of graduate students are enrolled full time. The average undergraduate student is 26 years old. Figures indicate that the undergraduate student population is 11.3% African American, 10.4% Asian, 43.0% Caucasian, and 29.2% Hispanic.

***Admissions Requirements:***

Admission to Teacher Education Program:

1. Declaration of Major
2. Cumulative GPA of 2.5/4.0 Note: Special Education requires a cumulative GPA of 2.75 and PE requires a major GPA of 2.75
3. Passing score on Illinois Certification Test Basic Skills Test.
4. "C" or better in each of the following: ENGL 101, and college level math leading to NEIU math competency
5. Recommendation from a university professor
6. Fingerprint-based Uniform Conviction Information Act (UCIA) Illinois State Police acceptable background check.
7. 30 NEIU or transfer semester credits

Admission to Student Teaching:

1. GPA of 2.5/4.0 overall
2. GPA of 2.75/4.0 in all professional education courses and majors within the College of Education (COE).
3. Grades of "C" or better in all professional education courses.
4. All "I" grades must be converted to grades of "C" or better in professional education and major courses.
5. Negative TB tests 90 days or less prior to student teaching.
6. Grades of "B" or better in all previous clinical experiences, unless the course is being retaken.
7. Any additional requirements established by the department or program in which the course is housed, or defined within a Remediation Plan.

***Accreditation:***

NEIU is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association. The COE is accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). Individual programs are accredited by national organizations in Educational Leadership, Special Education, Elementary Education, Early Childhood Education, and Secondary Mathematics Education and Biology Education. The Counseling Program is CACREP accredited.

***Teacher Education Vision:***

The COE's vision for teacher education is embodied in its conceptual framework: Reflective Professionals Building Learning Communities. Performance standards are designated in the following areas: content, assessment, motivation, learning styles, communication/technology, organizational culture, human development, foundations, leadership, diversity, research, collaboration, professional development and instruction. The COE vision is aligned with the key elements of the University mission: access, excellence, diversity, and community partnerships.

***Best Practices:***

- COE classes serve as models of student-centered, interactive, challenging learning.
- Technology is integral to all COE classes.
- All COE graduates are prepared to teach reading.
- The COE has institutionalized a culture of collaboration with the College of Arts and Sciences.
- Travel abroad opportunities are offered.
- The COE has a Chicago Teachers' Center (CTC) which involves faculty and students in local schools.

***Notable Features and Accomplishments:***

- In FY 2006, the COE was awarded over \$19 million in federal, state, and local grants that fund over 30 different programs. This grant work supports school partnerships covering all areas of the curriculum, enhances learning for P-12 students in over 100 school and community sites, and facilitates faculty involvement in classrooms nationally and internationally.
- Through CTC, the COE is involved in over one hundred schools in Illinois. In 2006, CTC served more than 1,500 teachers, 800 parents, and 12,000 schoolchildren in diverse urban and suburban communities.

<b>Program Information for Northeastern Illinois University 2005-2006</b>
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<b>S.1</b> Total number of students admitted into teacher preparation, all specializations, in academic year 2005-2006	<b>384</b>
<b>S.2</b> Number of candidates in supervised student teaching in academic year 2005-2006	<b>401</b>
<b>S.3</b> Number of faculty members who supervised student teachers:	<b>39</b>
➤ <b>S.3A</b> Full-time faculty in professional education	<b>10</b>
➤ <b>S.3B</b> Part-time faculty in professional education but full-time in the institution	<b>2</b>
➤ <b>S.3C</b> Part-time faculty in professional education, not otherwise employed by the institution	<b>27</b>
<b>S.4</b> Total faculty student teaching supervisors	<b>39</b>
<b>S.5</b> Student teacher/faculty ratio (Divide total given in S.2 by the number given in S.4)	<b>1:10</b>
<b>S.6A</b> The average number of student teaching hours per week	<b>30</b>
<b>S.6B</b> The total number of weeks of supervised student teaching required	<b>16</b>
<b>S.7</b> Average total number of hours required	<b>480</b>