

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Mission:

True to its founding vision in 1829, Illinois College is a community committed to the highest standards of scholarship and integrity in the liberal arts. The College develops in its students' qualities of mind and character needed for fulfilling lives of leadership and service. In keeping with the mission of the college, the Teacher Preparation Unit is committed to the highest standards of scholarship and integrity in the liberal arts for preparing teachers to teach every child. The program prepares competent and caring teachers qualified for living lives of service and leadership as educators in the P-12 schools.

Teacher Preparation Programs:

Illinois state teacher certification: early childhood, elementary, secondary, and K-12 teaching. Early Childhood, Elementary, and Physical Education candidates major in Education while other secondary and K-12 candidates select a major in one of the approved areas and complete additional education courses to meet certification requirements. The approved programs for secondary certification include Science-Biology, English, Mathematics, and Social Science-History. Approved programs for certification in K-12 teaching include Art, Music, French, German, Spanish, and Physical Education.

Student Characteristics:

Student characteristics of undergraduates: 97.6% are of traditional age; 90% are from Illinois, and 7.3% are minorities. Over 97.8% attend full-time. The average ACT score for entering Freshmen is 23.6.

Admissions Requirements:

Admission to Teacher Education Program: Requires completion of English 121, Communication 101, IC 102, Library Research, EDUC 101, Introduction to Teaching, EDUC 203, Multicultural Issues in Education, and EDUC 222, Service Learning with a "C" or better; an Illinois College GPA of 2.500; a passing score on the Illinois Certification Testing System (ICTS) Basic Skills Test; an acceptable score on the rubric assessing the Transition I Teacher Competency Portfolio focusing on required Illinois College Dispositions, passing score on the Technology Assessment for Future Teachers (TAFT) based on the Core Technology Standards for All Teachers, clearance on an Illinois State Police background check, and successful completion of the Admission to the Program Interview.

Admission to Student Teaching: Requires passing score on the ICTS Content Area Test; satisfactory completion of all majors, area of concentration/electives, professional education, and general education requirements; satisfactory completion of the Junior/Methods Block sequence; Completion of acceptable Transition II Teacher Competency Portfolio focusing on content knowledge, and continued disposition assessment.

Accreditation:

Illinois College, a Phi Beta Kappa institution, is a charter member of and accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. All Illinois College teacher preparation programs are approved by the Illinois State Board of Education.

Teacher Education Vision:

Drawing upon Illinois College's heritage of educating leaders for public life, Illinois College teacher candidates will be distinctive for their skills in written and oral communication and for their commitment to furthering the public good as educators who are willing to accept responsibilities for equipping young people to be capable, productive citizens. The Teacher Preparation Unit will affirm and model the moral purpose it serves in society and will place a special emphasis on cultivating an environment of caring. It will make evident, both in its curriculum and individual expressions of faculty, a commitment to the value of diversity and community, integrity, excellence, fairness, service, respect, openness, and effective communication. Our Unit's goal is to prepare competent and caring teachers for leadership and service.

Best Practices:

- All candidates complete intensive field placement (Junior Block) associated with their appropriate methods courses.
- All candidates complete the "Teacher Work Sample" (TWS) assessment project during their block semester and their professional semester.
- Candidates complete a content area self-assessment and use the individual results to develop a professional development plan.

Notable Features and Accomplishments:

- A Golden Apple College, there are currently three Golden Apple Scholars and two newly selected Golden Apple Pathway Scholars enrolled.
- The College financially supports opportunities for national and international travel for candidates and other students.
- K-8 community student tutoring program initiated and offered free of charge by candidates.
- Approximately 50 teacher candidates per year are involved in service to the community.
- The program received an ACI grant to enhance partnership with the local Alternative School where most secondary and K-12 candidates complete their junior block.
- Through an ACI Transition to Teaching Grant, the college has enrolled 14 Latino educators into its certification programs.

Program Information for Illinois College 2006-2007	
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S.1 Total number of students admitted into teacher preparation, all specializations, in academic year 2006-2007	27
S.2 Number of candidates in supervised student teaching in academic year 2006-2007	63
S.3 Number of faculty members who supervised student teachers:	12
➤ S.3A Full-time faculty in professional education	4
➤ 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	9
S.4 Total faculty student teaching supervisors	12
S.5 Student teacher/faculty ratio (Divide total given in S.2 by the number given in S.4)	5.25
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