

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Mission:

Founded in 1857, Lake Forest College is one of a few national, independent, liberal arts institutions in the state of Illinois. Lake Forest College's small size—approximately 1,400 students—and devotion to the intellectual and personal growth of students allows for close mentorship and careful attention to the development of highly effective and caring teachers.

Teacher Preparation Programs:

Lake Forest College offers programs in Elementary Education; secondary English; Social Studies: History, Politics; and Natural Sciences: Biology, Physics, Chemistry, and Mathematics; and special K-12 in Spanish, French, and Visual Arts. Students in all of our Elementary and Secondary programs are required to complete a second major course of study outside of the Department of Education in addition to a full major in Education. Middle school endorsement options are offered as part of the Elementary and Secondary programs. Students can apply to student teach abroad.

Student Characteristics:

Students at Lake Forest College come to Illinois to study from across the country (representing 48 states; less than 50% are from Illinois) and around the world (representing 66 countries). More than 20% come from minority backgrounds or are international students. Most are traditional age, attend full time, and live on campus. The student-faculty ratio on campus is approximately 12 to 1.

Admissions Requirements:

Admission to Teacher Education Program: Candidates must have rising junior or junior standing with a GPA at the College of 2.75; have evidence of passing the Illinois Basic Skills Test; have adhered to the College's Ethics Policy; have earned a B- or better in EDUC 210 with instructor recommendation for program admission; and have evidence of passing the Illinois State Police background check. Applicants also participate in an interview process and transcript review process, provide an on-site writing sample, and complete an initial portfolio assessment.

Admission to Student Teaching: Admission to student teaching requires successful completion of the junior-year internship with a recommendation for program continuation and evidence of progress toward meeting ISBE and institutional standards through the portfolio process. A grade of "C" or better is required for courses applied to certification. Candidates also must have senior standing with a GPA at the College of 2.75, evidence of passing the appropriate Illinois Content Area test, and successful completion of methods courses with recommendation for continuation in the program. All applicants are approved by the Education Advisory Council, a group of faculty representing various departments on campus, teaching alumni, local teachers, and principals.

Accreditation:

Lake Forest College is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, and the teacher education programs are accredited by the Illinois State Board of Education.

Teacher Education Vision:

Lake Forest College's goal is to prepare teachers who are resourceful and highly motivated, dedicated to responding to students' needs, and who believe passionately in their own power as teachers to make positive contributions to the lives of children and their families. Lake Forest College prepares teachers who use well-developed analytic skills to practice critical self-assessment, thereby fostering a lifetime of personal and professional growth.

Best Practices:

- Academic advising, career counseling, and placement processes are all conducted by Education department faculty. In this way, we are able to attend to the developmental and personal needs of the individual student.
- All students participate in a full semester, half-day internship working in a classroom with ethnically, socio-economically and linguistically diverse students in their junior year—a full year prior to student teaching—to solidify their commitment to teaching and to develop the skill base to effectively teach children from various backgrounds.
- All methods courses are supplemented with relevant field experiences.
- All methods courses in the junior and senior years are organized as small seminars with not more than seven students in order to address individual developmental needs.
- Multicultural education, technology education, and the education of special needs children are integrated into all courses throughout the preparation program.
- Supervision of internships and student teaching experiences are done by long-standing members of the faculty who come to know each student teacher's strengths and weaknesses before the student teaching experience begins.
- Local teaching alumni support our Department faculty by providing mentorship to students and by conducting workshops, panel presentations, and on-site focused observations to supplement courses.
- Internship and student teaching experience are arranged in quality urban and suburban settings.
- State of the art "smart classrooms" feature the latest educational technology.

Notable Features and Accomplishments:

- Lake Forest College sponsors a national award-winning chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, an honorary education organization and a student NEA chapter.
- Annually, several Education majors are inducted into Phi Beta Kappa.
- An alumnae recently earned National Board Certification as a Master Teacher.
- A recent Golden Apple Fellow nominee is a graduate of Lake Forest College.
- In 2001, Lake Forest College and Waukegan District 60 received a \$921,966 grant from the Department of Education to improve the quality of secondary teaching in American history.
- In 2003, Lake Forest College joined the Center for Success in High Needs Schools to support professional development projects in Waukegan Schools.
- In 2006, Lake Forest College joined the Diversity at the Blackboard Project of the Associated Colleges of Illinois.
- In 2007 Lake Forest College became a participant in the K-16 Initiative, a partnership with Lake Forest and Lake Bluff Schools.
- Recent graduates have key leadership positions in their school districts, including early appointments as department chairs.

Program Information for Lake Forest College 2006-2007
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S.1 Total number of students admitted into teacher preparation, all specializations, in academic year 2006-2007	34
S.2 Number of candidates in supervised student teaching in academic year 2006-2007	16
S.3 Number of faculty members who supervised student teachers:	2
➤ 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	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)	8:1
S.6A The average number of student teaching hours per week	40
S.6B The total number of weeks of supervised student teaching required	14
S.7 Average total number of hours required	560