

**CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION**

***Mission:***

McKendree University, founded in 1828, is the oldest college in Illinois and the 100<sup>th</sup> oldest college in the United States. The mission of the teacher education program is to prepare professional teachers for elementary and secondary schools in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

***Teacher Preparation Programs:***

McKendree University teacher education program offers ten baccalaureate programs leading to state teacher certification in either elementary or secondary education. Post-baccalaureate candidates complete initial certification through graduate studies.

***Student Characteristics:***

Students are mostly of traditional college age with 90% attending full time, and 92% are Illinois residents. Twenty-three percent of all students are minority students. The average ACT score for fall 2006 freshmen was 24.

***Admissions Requirements:***

Admission to Teacher Education Program: Candidates must have passed the Illinois Test of Basic Skills, have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75; complete ENG 111, ENG 112, EDU 210, EDU 115 or MUED 200 and two Mathematics courses (one must be at least at the level of Finite Mathematics) with a grade of C or higher; successfully complete Portfolio Evaluation and Dispositions Evaluations; successfully complete the faculty review process and receive a majority vote of the Council on Teacher Education (COTE).

Admission to Student Teaching: Candidates must have passed the Illinois Content Area Test; have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75; successfully complete courses with field experience components (EDU 210, EDU 309, 310 or 311 or EDU 609, 613 and 614, and EDU 441/442 and EDU 445/446/430 for elementary majors or EDU 412 and content methods for secondary/special K-12 majors) and all courses that provide professional background considered necessary before student teaching; successfully complete the faculty review process and receive a majority vote of COTE.

***Accreditation:***

McKendree University is accredited by the North Central Association of College and Secondary schools, and the School of Education is accredited by the Illinois State Board of Education. The University has received Provisional Accreditation by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

***Teacher Education Vision:***

McKendree University's goal is to prepare educators for public, private and parochial schools who display the characteristics identified in dispositions, and who are prepared in proficiencies identified by the Unit which meet the expectation of state and national standards thus able to address the educational needs of the region it serves at all levels. It is the philosophy of the program to use an approach that prepares educators who are professionals with a strong foundation in knowledge, practice the profession in a caring manner, and consider learning to be a basic foundation to their lifelong experience.

***Best Practices:***

- Faculty members communicate best practice instructional strategies/models, pedagogies, and approaches to learning.
- Field experiences are well planned and sequenced and are of high quality.
- The unit recruits, admits, and retains candidates who demonstrate potential for professional success.
- Elementary education majors may choose from twelve concentrations, while secondary education students may decide from nine teaching majors.

***Notable Features and Accomplishments:***

- In the last five years at McKendree University, teacher education has grown 81% in both elementary and secondary education.
- Two elementary education candidates received Teacher of the Year awards from Illinois Association of Teacher Educators.
- Many candidates are involved in Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education.
- A McKendree candidate received the Golden Apple Foundation scholarship awarded to high achieving candidates.
- A notable feature is that McKendree University received Provisional Accreditation by NCATE after the site visit in Fall 2006.

<b>Program Information for McKendree University 2006-2007</b>	
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<b>S.1</b> Total number of students admitted into teacher preparation, all specializations, in academic year 2006-2007	<b>159</b>
<b>S.2</b> Number of candidates in supervised student teaching in academic year 2006-2007	<b>111</b>
<b>S.3</b> Number of faculty members who supervised student teachers:	
➤ <b>S.3A</b> Full-time faculty in professional education	<b>6</b>
➤ <b>S.3B</b> Part-time faculty in professional education but full-time in the institution	<b>6</b>
➤ <b>S.3C</b> Part-time faculty in professional education, not otherwise employed by the institution	<b>14</b>
<b>S.4</b> Total faculty student teaching supervisors	<b>26</b>
<b>S.5</b> Student teacher/faculty ratio (Divide total given in S.2 by the number given in S.4)	<b>4.2:1</b>
<b>S.6A</b> The average number of student teaching hours per week	<b>40</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>640</b>