

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Mission:

In 1901 James Millikin Envisioned a university in which “the scientific, the practical and industrial shall have a place of equal importance, side by side with the literary and classical.” Millikin University has a long history of blending theory with practice to prepare graduates who have a foundation of liberal studies, grounded in practical realism. Likewise, the mission of Millikin’s teacher education programs emphasizes a blend of theory and practice. Its mission is to prepare beginning teachers who are committed to excellence in teaching and learning. We seek to provide practical and theoretical knowledge, attitudes and skills that will enable our students to journey toward excellence in learning and teaching throughout their professional lives.

Teacher Preparation Programs:

Millikin University offers undergraduate baccalaureate degrees in the following areas: Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, K-12 Specialist Programs in Art, Music, and Physical Education; Secondary Education programs in English, Math, Science (designations in Biology and Chemistry), and Social Science (designation in History). In addition, Millikin offers a School Nurse Program.

Student Characteristics:

Approximately 85% of Millikin Students are Illinois residents. The majority of the students are of traditional college age. Minority students, including international students, represent 13.6 % of the student population. Among students entering Millikin in Fall 2004, the average ACT score was 23.2. Approximately 20% of the total enrollments are first generation college students.

Admissions Requirements:

Admission to Teacher Education Program: Admission to Teacher Education Program: Applicants must have 1) completed 30 credits, including one education class at Millikin; 2) earned a C and C in two composition classes; 3) earned a 2.7 cumulative GPA; 4) passed the Illinois Basic Skills Test; 5) completed Phase I of the Candidate Portfolio (Candidate Assessments 1-2); 6) received a positive recommendation from their major department; 7) been accepted by Committee on Teacher Education Programs; 8) completed the CAT1 technology test; 9) completed a satisfactory criminal background check.

Admission to Student Teaching: Admission to Student Teaching: Candidates must 1) continue to earn a 2.7 cumulative GPA, earn a 2.7 GPA in major field coursework, and earn a 2.5 GPA in core education courses; 2) pass the Illinois Area Test; 3) Compete Candidate Assessments 3-9; 4) complete 100 internship hours; and 5) receive a positive recommendation from their major field department.

Accreditation:

Millikin University is accredited by the The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Millikin’s teacher education programs are approved by the Illinois State Board of Education.

Teacher Education Vision:

When we prepare teachers, they are on a journey toward excellence and they will in turn direct their own students toward excellence, thus continuing a cycle of learning and teaching. The Teacher Education Unit at Millikin is committed to preparing candidates for lifelong teaching-learning journeys as professional educators who 1) engage in active learning; 2) create communities of learning; 3) facilitate learning for others and 4) collaborate with others in teaching and learning.

Best Practices:

- Candidates are involved in school field experiences from their freshman through senior year. During the Sophomore and Junior year, course work is ‘blocked’ so that students can spend full days in the schools.
- Candidates seeking secondary certification complete majors in their arts or sciences disciplines. Elementary education majors complete 15 credits of study in an arts or sciences discipline, with added middle school endorsements of 24 credits.
- Candidates are required to understand about the culture of poverty through application of coursework knowledge in multicultural, diverse field settings.
- Candidates are required to apply knowledge of tiered learning and pre and post assessment strategies when building their Teacher Work Sample.
- Candidates complete internships in their student teaching classroom during the semester prior to student teaching; thus candidates have an opportunity to interact in their student teaching schools and classrooms and to become acquainted with their cooperating teachers and their students, to better inform their instructional strategies.

Notable Features and Accomplishments:

- “Blocks” of coursework and clinical experiences allow candidates to move from theory to practice in area schools and apply concepts in actual teaching environments.
- Faculty observe clinical and collaborate with area teachers during the blocks.
- A James Millikin Estate Endowment fund specifically supports teacher education professional development, workshops for community teachers, scholarships, and a professorship.
- Graduates have been awarded numerous teaching awards, including Teachers of Excellence, Outstanding Teacher, Teacher of the Month, and National Board Certification.
- Millikin graduates in teacher education have strong placement records.
- Students choose Student teaching semesters with the Urban Life Center in Chicago, Illinois.
- International Immersion experiences, Student Teaching Abroad and Teacher Exchange programs have been set up with universities in the Dominican Republic, Taiwan and The People’s Republic of China.

**Program Information for Millikin University
2006-2007**

S.1 Total number of students admitted into teacher preparation, all specializations, in academic year 2006-2007	108
S.2 Number of candidates in supervised student teaching in academic year 2006-2007	127
S.3 Number of faculty members who supervised student teachers:	29
➤ S.3A Full-time faculty in professional education	12
➤ S.3B Part-time faculty in professional education but full-time in the institution	4
➤ S.3C Part-time faculty in professional education, not otherwise employed by the institution	13
S.4 Total faculty student teaching supervisors	29
S.5 Student teacher/faculty ratio (Divide total given in S.2 by the number given in S.4)	4/1
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