

Education Program of Study

Human and Public Services



A program of study serves as a guide, along with other career planning materials, as learners continue along a career path. Courses listed are only recommended coursework and should be individualized to meet each learner's educational and career goals.

Ultimately, a program of study should be customized with course titles and appropriate high school graduation requirements as well as college entrance requirements. Additional career exploration opportunities should also be offered at upper elementary grade levels to promote higher engagement and learner focus in subsequent years. Student Success Plans outlining career goals should be utilized through the advisement process. Illinois students graduating with the College and Career Pathway Endorsement (CCPE) in Human and Public Services (Education) are eligible for automatic advancement to the final stage of the Golden Apple Scholars application process.

Requires on-the-job training or industry-recognized credential

- Behavioral Technician
- Child Care Worker
- Teacher Aide/Assistant
- After-school Child Care Teacher
- Youth Enrichment Instructor

Requires an associate degree

- Early Childhood Educator
- Paraprofessional Educator

Requires a bachelor's degree

- Behavioral Therapist
- Career and Technical Education Teacher
- Education Consultant
- Elementary School Teacher
- Middle School Teacher
- Secondary School Teacher
- Special Education Teacher
- Curriculum Sales Associate

Requires an advanced degree

- Curriculum Developer
- Instructional Coordinator
- Postsecondary Teacher
- School Administrator
- Superintendent
- School Counselor

Sample occupations



Course examples

Diversity in Education (19154A002)

The Diversity in Education course prepares future teachers to effectively serve and teach children from diverse backgrounds. The course topics could include methods of creating an environment of respect and rapport; recognizing the need for cultural competence to support all students for success; acknowledging, responding to, and celebrating diverse cultures; identifying, reflecting on, and countering students' own identities and implicit biases; and teaching students to recognize their own agency and develop the needed skills to advocate effectively within a school community.

Educational Methodology (Skills) (19152A001)

This course provides opportunity for students to develop skills to teach and guide others. Coursework includes opportunity for students to create and develop teaching objectives, design lesson plans, and experience teaching in a controlled environment. Students examine and practice teaching strategies, learning styles, time management and planning strategies, presentation and questioning skills, classroom management, and evaluation techniques. Students will explore opportunities in education careers and develop/expand their career portfolio.

Foundations to Teaching (19151A001)

This course introduces students to the principles underlying teaching and learning, responsibilities and duties of teachers, and strategies and techniques to deliver knowledge and information. A combination of classroom and field experiences will enable the student to gain skilled knowledge and understanding of the education profession. Course content includes projects to develop an understanding of the learner and the learning process, instructional planning, the learning environment, assessment and instructional strategies, career opportunities in the field of education, and Illinois regulations and licensing requirements.

General Education Workplace Experience (19198A001)

General Education Workplace Experience courses provide students with work experience in fields related to general education. Goals are typically set cooperatively by the student, teacher, and employer (although students are not necessarily paid). These courses may include classroom activities as well, involving further study of the field or discussion regarding experiences that students encounter in the workplace.

Human Growth and Development (19261A001)

This course focuses on the development and wellness of individuals and families throughout the life cycle. Topics include human development and wellness theories, principles, and practices; life cycle expectations and issues, including biological, physiological, social, and psychological needs and concerns of aging adults; community services, agencies, and resources; roles, responsibilities, and functions of families, family members, and caregivers; family issues, including ethics, human worth and dignity, change, stress, neglect and abuse, and care of the caregiver; individual and family wellness planning; and fostering intergenerational relationships. Practical experiences related to these topics are included through a variety of activities, such as volunteer experiences, service learning, and intergenerational event planning opportunities. Information on a variety of human and family services careers is incorporated throughout the course.

Human Services Career Exploration (19001A001)

Human Services Career Exploration courses introduce and expose students to the career opportunities pertaining to the provision of personal and consumer services for other human beings. Course topics vary and may include, but are not limited to, caring for others, education, cosmetology, apparel/textiles, entrepreneurship, labor laws, and customer service. Course activities depend upon the careers being explored.

Instructional Technology (19155A001)

Instructional Technology courses address the implementation of technical devices and processes that are used to improve and facilitate learning. Content includes, but is not limited to, productivity tools; interactive multimedia; communications; educational software and hardware; instructional applications; and ethical, legal, social, and professional issues.

Full sequence

	Grade	English	Math	Science	Social Studies	Required Courses, Electives, and Learner Activities	Career and Technical Courses
Middle School	7	ELA 7	Math 7	Science 7	Social Studies 7		Career Exploration
	8	ELA 8	Math 8	Science 8	Social Studies 8		Employability Skills
Secondary	9	ELA 9	Algebra I	NGSS-Aligned Science 9	U.S. History	All programs of study should meet local and state high school graduation requirements and college entrance requirements. Participation in a Career and Technical Student Organization is also important for developing appropriate skills and competencies.	Human Services Career Exploration
	10	ELA 10	Geometry	NGSS-Aligned Science 10	World History		Foundations to Teaching or Introduction to Education*
	11	ELA 11	Algebra II	Biology*	U.S. Government*		Human Growth and Development or Child Growth & Development* Diversity in Education*
	12	Transitional English or English Composition*	TM QL & Statistics or General Education Statistics*	Physics* or Chemistry*	Psychology*		
Postsecondary	13	English Composition [†] Oral Communication [†]	General Education Statistics** [†] Mathematics for Elementary Teaching I & II [†]	Science [†]	Psychology** [†] Sociology [†]	All programs of study should meet learner's career goals with regards to required degrees, licenses, certifications, or journey worker status. Participation in student organizations is also important for developing appropriate skills and competencies.	Continue required courses in learner's chosen area of specialization to complete the desired certification and/or credential.
	14						
	15	Continue courses in learner's chosen area of specialization.					
	16	Continue courses in learner's chosen area of specialization.					

A program of study:

- Incorporates state academic standards.
- Addresses academic and technical knowledge and skills, including employability skills.
- Aligns with the needs of industries in the economy of the state, region, Tribal community, or local area.
- Progresses in specificity.
- Has multiple entry and exit points that incorporate credentialing.
- Culminates in the attainment of a recognized postsecondary credential.

* AP/Dual Credit Opportunities

** May have already been met with an appropriate dual credit agreement

† Postsecondary course affiliated with Illinois Articulation Initiative Code

Additional opportunities

Early career opportunities learning about work

- Career Planning
- Career Fairs
- Industry Speakers
- Informational Interviews
- Career Presentations
- Worksite Tours
- Cooperative Education
- Job Shadow
- Simulated Skill Development
- Other

Credit Transfer and WBL opportunities

- Dual Enrollment/Dual Credit
- Advanced Placement
- Articulated Credit
- Career-Related Service Learning
- School-Based Enterprise
- Student-Led Enterprise
- Project-Based Learning
- Internships
- Apprenticeships (i.e., youth, pre-registered, non-registered, research)
- Other

Industry-recognized credentials

- Certification
- License
- Other

Student organizations

- Business Professionals of America
- Educators Rising
- Future Business Leaders of America
- Family, Career and Community Leaders of America
- National FFA Organization (Illinois Association FFA)
- Future Health Professionals
- Illinois Distributive Education Clubs of America
- Science Olympiad
- Skills USA Illinois
- Technology Student Association
- Other
- Team-Based Challenge