

# Frequently Asked Questions

## The Teacher Certification Program



The  
Wescoe School  
MUHLENBERG COLLEGE

### **I have a bachelor's degree and want to become a certified teacher. Now what?**

You need to have a major in the discipline you wish to teach to be able to apply for secondary certification. You can apply to elementary certification with any major offered at Muhlenberg College.

### **Is Education a major?**

No, our students become certified to teach but do not major in education. Students may select from a range of majors.

### **Can I be certified in both secondary and elementary education?**

Yes, by completing the requirements for both which would include 13 education courses.

### **When are classes offered?**

Our teacher certification classes will be available in the day and the evenings; however, fieldwork in the public schools is required and must be done during the regular school day. Student teaching is only available during the day.

### **Are there minimum GPA requirements?**

Yes, an overall GPA of 3.0 is required. A 2.5 GPA is needed in the major (a 3.0 GPA is required for Foreign Languages majors); and a 2.75 in Education courses.

### **How many courses will I need?**

Our program requires 12 Education courses for Elementary Teacher Certification and 9 Education courses for the Secondary Teacher Certification. In addition, there are cognate courses required by Pennsylvania.

### **How long is it going to take?**

Generally, a minimum of 3 full semesters.

### **Do I have to complete my bachelor's degree before starting the teacher certification courses?**

No, you may take them concurrently as some of the education courses may also fulfill the bachelor's degree requirements.

### **Are Education courses offered in the summer?**

Teacher certification classes are not offered in the summer because of fieldwork requirements. However, cognates and major courses are offered.

### **Are there any state or national exams?**

Yes, students must take the PRAXIS Exams required by Pennsylvania.

### **What kind of financial aid is available?**

Financial aid is available for those who meet federal financial aid eligibility requirements.



### **Can I teach in other states with a PA teaching certificate?**

We have reciprocity with most states, but you must apply to each state's Department of Education for their certificate.

### **How do I apply for certification?**

We encourage all candidates to set up an initial appointment as early as possible. Please contact The Wescoe School at 484-664-3300 or wescoe@muhlenberg.edu for more information.

484-664-3300 • fax: 484-664-3532

[www.muhlenberg.edu/wescoe](http://www.muhlenberg.edu/wescoe)