



PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Certification Requirements

Students interested in teaching in the State of Illinois have choices of certification in many areas. The following are the most popular categories:

- Early Childhood (Birth through Grade 3)
- Elementary (Kindergarten through Grade 9)
- Secondary (Grades 6 through 12)
- Special (Kindergarten through Grade 12)

Highland Community College provides general education courses and some professional courses for students interested in any of these areas. Many courses are the same for all certification levels; however, the number of hours required in certain disciplines may vary.

Students interested in the teaching profession should contact a student advisor for up-to-date information regarding state requirements and senior institution admission requirements.

Special Notes:

Early Childhood Education

Highland Community College's Associate of Applied Science degree in Early Childhood Education will NOT satisfy teacher certification requirements in the State of Illinois.

Elementary Education

Students need to declare an area of emphasis after transferring to a senior institution. Working with a student advisor will help clarify students' choices in these areas.

Secondary/Special Education

Students should declare a major in a specific area such as history, biology, speech, hearing impaired, etc. General education and professional education courses complete the program.

The recommended courses on the next page are intended to give students a general idea of course choices. Education majors are required to consult with a student advisor, faculty member, and/or the Transfer Coordinator to ensure proper course selection and program advising. **Certification requirements are subject to change due to legislation or Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) decisions.**

