



Education Preparation Program Guide for Students

CTEP Bridges: Elementary Education

University of Massachusetts

Program Description

The Collaborative Teacher Education Program (CTEP) offers a Master of Education degree leading to Initial Massachusetts Licensure in Elementary Education. The program offers 39 credits, 15 of which are field-based in schools. Designed for dynamic students interested in an intensive, full-time program, CTEP is rooted in the constructivist theory of knowledge and learning, multicultural and social justice education, and active problem solving and reflection. Students complete a practicum in a rural school district, spending three full-days in the classroom in the fall and five full-days in the classroom in the spring. Students are jointly supervised by supervising practitioners and program supervisors and learn together in cohorts of twenty students.

Bridges to the Future is a partnership between the University of Massachusetts Amherst, the Greenfield, Gill-Montague School, Orange and Mahar Public School Districts, and the North Quabbin Community Coalition. CTEP Bridges to the Future is unique in that it places a special emphasis on a community service-learning project and the use of technology as both professional and curriculum tools.

Who May Apply

CTEP is designed to meet the needs of three groups of individuals who desire an early childhood or elementary teaching license:

1) graduating seniors at the University of Massachusetts; 2) seniors from other institutions; and 3) second-career professionals. Applicants must possess a B.A. or B.S. degree with a liberal arts major and a G.P.A. of 2.75 or higher. Many applicants have a minor in education; however, this is not a requirement for admissions.

Prerequisites for Acceptance

- Passing scores on the Communication and Literacy Skills portion of the Massachusetts Tests for Educator Licensure (MTEL).
- Evidence of, or plans for, meeting the prerequisite knowledge base in mathematics. This requirement can be met successfully by completing Math 113 (with a grade of B or higher), or a higher-level mathematics course. Math 113 is offered each semester and during the summer at UMass. Candidates fulfilling this prerequisite at another institution must provide a syllabus to CTEP for approval.

- Evidence of, or plans for, meeting the prerequisite knowledge base in reading/writing methods. This requirement can be met by successfully completing Educ 461 (with a grade of B or higher). Educ 461 is offered each semester at UMass and online during the summer. Candidates fulfilling this prerequisite at another institution must provide a syllabus to CTEP for approval.

*You must pass the Communication and Literacy tests as a pre-requisite for acceptance. Although passing the remaining two portions of the MTEL (Foundation of Reading & General Curriculum or Early Childhood) is not a pre-requisite for acceptance, you are expected to pass the remaining tests **before** you begin CTEP. All portions of the MTEL **must** be passed to enter student teaching in spring semester of the CTEP year.

** For students applying to CTEP for 2008-2009, CTEP requires that students take Math 113 for admission. CTEP recommends that students take *EITHER* Math 114 or Educ 463 for admission.

For students applying to CTEP for 2009-2010, CTEP will require 9 credits of math: Math 113, Math 114, and Educ 463.

Admissions Process and Requirements

Complete the University of Massachusetts Amherst graduate School Application. **IMPORTANT:** For PROGRAM (Part II), write **Education**. For Sub-field, write **CTEP**. Then, in parentheses, write either **Early Childhood OR Elementary** (your preference) followed by a dash and **TECS Department**. CTEP does not require GRE scores (Part IV).

The following must be included with the application:

- Personal Statement that includes your future goals as well as your beliefs about teaching and learning (Part VII).
- Hard copy of your passing scores on the Communication and Literacy Skills portion of the MTEL.
- Two recommendations (one academic reference and one highlighting your work with children).
- Evidence of, or plans for, meeting the reading/writing methods prerequisite.
- Evidence of, or plans for, meeting the mathematics knowledge prerequisite.
- Resume.

CTEP seeks candidates who demonstrate initiative, highly effective interpersonal and communication skills, a passion for learning, and respect for diversity of children and families in public schools. Experience with children in educational environments is highly valued. In some cases, applicants will be invited for an interview. Students must be able to balance intensive course work with significant time in the field.

Course of Study

CTEP blends intensive academic study with carefully supervised field experiences. The following is the course sequence for the 2007-2008 CTEP program of study. An orientation program is held in August. Students begin their field experience when public schools open in late August/early September.

Fall Semester

HUM DEV 570 Applied Child Development (3)
EDUC 615N Children and their Literacies (3)
EDUC 619R Prom. Practices in School Mathematics (3)
EDUC 773 Integrated Methods Seminar (3)
EDUC 500E/A Pre-Practicum (3 days/week) (6)

Winter Session (January)

EDUC 615AK The Inclusive Classroom (3)

Spring Semester

EDUC 561 Science Methods (3)
EDUC 795J Advanced Integrated Methods Seminar
EDUC 500Y Practicum (9)
EDUC 697R Service Learning (3)

With the exception of January, CTEP students follow the public school calendar, rather than the university calendar, for all vacations.

Program Costs

CTEP is administrated by the Division of Continuing and Professional Education at the University of Massachusetts. For 2007-2008, tuition for CTEP was \$13,065 (\$335 a credit). Books cost approximately \$500 for the year. Students are advised to plan carefully as the program's intensity severely limits the time for paid employment during the year.

Academic Advising

Prior to admission, students at the University of Massachusetts Amherst who plan to apply to CTEP receive advising from the Educator Information Office, Furcolo Hall, Room 121. Students from other colleges/universities may contact the CTEP office at ctep@educ.umass.edu or 413.545.5734. Once accepted, a CTEP faculty member will serve as your academic advisor during the year.

Career Opportunities and Job Placement

Graduates of CTEP who pass all portions of the MTEL are eligible for elementary initial licensure in Massachusetts. Graduates have a very high rate of success in attaining teaching positions in public schools in Massachusetts as well as other states. Graduates who seek teaching positions in states other than Massachusetts are usually required to take licensure tests required by the particular state.

For Further Information, Please Contact:

Collaborative Teacher Education Program
223 Furcolo Hall
University of Massachusetts Amherst
Amherst, MA 01003
Telephone: 413.545.5734
Email: ctep@educ.umass.edu
Website: <http://www.umass.edu/ctep/>

LICENSURE INFORMATION AND STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Massachusetts Tests for Educator Licensure (MTEL):

The MTEL is required for licensure by the Department of Education of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The test has two parts: the Communication and Literacy Skills (C&LS) test and the Subject area test(s). The University's policy is that:

- Undergraduates must achieve a passing score on the C&LS test as a pre-requisite for admission.
- Post-baccalaureate and graduate students must achieve a passing score on the C&LS test in their first semester of study.
- All students must pass the Subject test(s) (if one has been developed for that licensure field) before enrolling in the practicum.

Licensure Application Process: The Educator Licensure Office (ELO) in the School of Education coordinates the licensure application process for all University Educator Preparation program students who have completed all licensing requirements. The ELO provides information to guide students in using the Electronic Licensure and Recruitment system (ELAR), a system in which students apply for educator licenses online. The ELAR system requires a student to apply for his/her license online (including the payment of license fees) and send an official copy of his/her transcript to the ELO in Room 130 Furcolo Hall (being sure that the transcript includes the "Institutional Recommendation for Educator Licensure"). After individuals have applied online, the ELO endorses/recommends candidates for licensure via ELAR. The University Licensure Officer also assists students in completing applications for licensure in other states, as necessary.

Career and Job Search Assistance: The School of Education, in collaboration with Career Services, sponsors a Job Fair for prospective educators. The Job Fair draws school districts from Massachusetts, Connecticut, Vermont and New Hampshire. In addition, Career Services provides information and registration for the Massachusetts Educational Recruiting Consortium (MERC), a recruitment fair attended by school districts from across the nation.

The University of Massachusetts Amherst prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, gender, sexual preference, age, marital status, national origin, mental or physical handicap, political belief or affiliation, membership or non-membership in any organization, or veteran status, in any aspect of the admission or treatment of students or in employment.