

## Admission Requirements for Initial Certification

In order to register for the first education course (professional development), a student must meet the following requirements:

1. Follow an approved course of study.
2. Complete at least 60 semester hours (junior standing). Adviser will verify that 60 semester hours are completed prior to semester in which first education course is taken.
3. Achieve overall 2.6 GPA on all courses applied toward graduation.
4. Demonstrate college-level skills in reading, writing, math, oral communication, and critical thinking by meeting the following requirements:
  - a. Reading\*: minimum score of 260 is required; if below 260 but at 250 or above, student must verify ongoing training in reading comprehension and improve reading score or proficiency to a level deemed acceptable by the Education Department
  - b. Writing\*: minimum score of 220 is required
  - c. Math\*: minimum score of 240 is required; if below 240 but at 230 or above, student must verify ongoing training in math comprehension and improve math score or proficiency to a level deemed acceptable by the Education Department
  - d. Oral communication: successfully complete a departmental admissions interview
  - e. Critical thinking: minimum GPA of 2.6 in Core Curriculum coursework is required  
*\* as determined by Texas Higher Education Assessment (THEA) exam*
5. Earn a grade of "C" or better in the following courses:
  - a. EN 1311-Rhetoric and Composition
  - b. MT 1303-College Algebra *or* MT 1411-College Algebra and Trigonometry (for degree plans that require college algebra)

The above requirements will be reviewed, and if approved, students may then register for the first professional development course. Any education course taken before all requirements are met will be for elective credit until all requirements are met.

## **Admission Requirements for Post-Baccalaureate Students**

### **1. All post-baccalaureate students must:**

- a. Have earned a bachelor's degree with a minimum GPA of 2.6 from an accredited institution
- b. Have a minimum 2.6 GPA in course work applicable to teaching field(s)
- c. Demonstrate college-level skills in reading, writing, math, oral communication, and critical thinking by meeting the following requirements:
  - i. Reading\*: minimum score of 260 is required; if below 260 but at 250 or above, student must verify ongoing training in reading comprehension and improve reading score or proficiency to a level deemed acceptable by the Education Department
  - ii. Writing\*: minimum score of 220 is required
  - iii. Math\*: minimum score of 240 is required; if below 240 but at 230 or above, student must verify ongoing training in math comprehension and improve math score or proficiency to a level deemed acceptable by the Education Department
  - iv. Oral communication: successfully complete a departmental admissions interview
  - v. Critical thinking: minimum GPA of 2.6 in Core Curriculum coursework is required

*\*As determined by Texas Higher Education Assessment (THEA) exam*

- a. Earn a minimum 2.6 GPA in all required teacher education courses taken during first semester enrolled
  - b. Submit faculty recommendation(s) from teacher ed. (and from professors in teaching field(s) if accessible) verifying fitness for the teaching profession
  - c. Submit completed application form for admission into the Educator Preparation Program to the Certification Officer
  - d. Receive formal acceptance into the Program
- 2. Students who earned their undergraduate degree from St. Mary's more than five (5) years prior to the date of application will have to successfully complete a minimum of three (3) semester hours in their teaching field(s) as prescribed by the Certification Officer.**
- 3. Students who earned their undergraduate degree from an institution other than St. Mary's will have to successfully complete a minimum of three-to-nine (3-9) semester hours in their teaching field(s) as prescribed by the Certification Officer.**

**Note: All post-baccalaureate students must meet the same requirements that apply to undergraduate students before being eligible for clinical teaching.**