

To teach in Illinois public schools (grades 6-9), teachers must be licensed by the state of Illinois. Students in middle level education complete a core of required methods courses, and then complete discipline-specific courses to be licensed in one or more pathways. Pathways include English Language Arts, Social Sciences, Mathematics, and Science.

Since admission is competitive, completion of the recommended course does not guarantee admission. A minimum grade point average of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) is generally required.

Information regarding Illinois standards for Professional Educator License is available on the Illinois State Board of Education Website at www.isbe.net.

General education and pathway requirements vary significantly by intended transfer institution. Students who have already chosen the university to which they plan to transfer should consult that institution's catalog or department advisor and an SVCC academic advisor in planning their program. Transfer guides for some universities are available at svcc.edu/transfer.

Criminal History Check Policy

Illinois law requires Illinois school boards to conduct a criminal background investigation on applicants for employment. This law also prohibits the employment of a person who has been convicted of committing or attempting to commit any one or more of a number of offenses. At present, offenses include first degree murder; any Class X felony; juvenile pimping; soliciting for a juvenile prostitute; exploitation of a child; obscenity; child pornography; harmful material; criminal sexual assault; aggravated criminal sexual assault; offenses set forth in the Cannabis Control Act; and crimes defined in the Illinois Controlled Substance Act. Employment must be denied whether the offenses and/or conviction occurred inside or outside the state of Illinois.

Students who perform classroom observations through coursework at Sauk Valley Community College may be required by the selected school/site to undergo a criminal background check prior to placement. Students may be denied at any observation site based on the results of that check.

Students who feel their criminal background may exclude them from observation or employment should seek counseling with SVCC faculty or advising staff early in their program to determine how it may affect their participation and eligibility.

Program Contacts at Sauk Valley Community College

- Academic Advising, 815-835-6354
- Amanda Eichman, Professor of English and Education, 815-835-6319

Total Hours Required - 64 Hours

Suggested Program

First Semester - 14-15 Hours

- Fine Arts 3 Semester hour(s)
- Mathematics 3-4 Semester hour(s)
- *Social/Behavioral Science 3 Semester hour(s)
- EDU 105 - Preparing for Careers in Educa (2 Semester Hours)
- ENG 101 - Composition I (3 Semester Hours)
- FYE 101 - First Year Experience (1 Semester Hours)

Second Semester - 16-17 Hours

- *Humanities 3 Semester hour(s)
- **Life Science 3-4 Semester hour(s)
- Personal Development 1 Semester hour
- *Social/Behavioral Science 6 Semester hour(s)

- ENG 103 - Composition II (3 Semester Hours)

Third Semester - 16 Hours

- *Humanities/Fine Arts 3 Semester hour(s)
- ***Pathway Electives or additional requirements 3 Semester hour(s)
- Personal Development 1 Semester hour
- *Social/Behavioral Science/Humanities 3 Semester hour(s)
- COM 131 - Intro to Oral Communication (3 Semester Hours)
- EDU 220 - Educ of the Exceptional Child (3 Semester Hours)

Fourth Semester - 16-18 Hours

- ****EDU elective 3 Semester hour(s)
- *Humanities/Social Behavioral Sciences 3 Semester hour(s)
- ***Pathway Electives or additional requirements 6-7 Semester hour(s)
- **Physical Science 3-4 Semester hour(s)
- EDU 276 - Clinical Exper in Education (1 Semester Hours)

Footnotes

- *Social Science Pathway should select from GEO 122, HIS 221, HIS 222, PSC 163, PSY 103. English Language Arts Pathway should select ENG 225, 226 and additional English Literature courses
- **One course must include a lab
- ***Student's pathway (intended area of teaching) and transfer school will guide the selection of pathway/elective coursework
- ****Suggested Education electives include EDU 210, 222, 224, 275