

To teach in Illinois public schools, teachers must be licensed by the state of Illinois. Community college students are strongly encouraged to complete an Associate in Arts degree prior to transfer. 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), dependent on the transfer school requirements, is required for program admission.

This program is designed for those who plan to teach exceptional children in the pre-school, elementary, intermediate, or secondary levels. Special education endorsements include Learning Behavior Specialist 1 (LBS 1), teacher of students who are blind or low vision and teacher of students who are deaf or hard of hearing. Information regarding Illinois standards for Professional Educator License is available on the Illinois State Board of Education Website at www.isbe.net.

General education in major field requirements vary significantly by 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 - 17 Hours

- Fine Arts 3 Semester hour(s)
- EDU 102 - Computer Education for Teacher (3 Semester Hours)
- 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)
- MAT 110 - Math for Elementary Teachers I (3 Semester Hours)
- PSY 103 - Introduction to Psychology (3 Semester Hours)

Second Semester - 15 Hours

- Fine Arts/Humanities 3 Semester hour(s)
- EDU 220 - Educ of the Exceptional Child (3 Semester Hours)

- ENG 103 - Composition II (3 Semester Hours)
- MAT 111 - Math for Elementary Teacher II (3 Semester Hours)
- PSC 163 - Am Government & Politics (3 Semester Hours)

Third Semester - 17-18 Hours

- Personal Development 2 Semester hour(s)
- *Physical Science 3-4 Semester hour(s)
- Humanities 3 Semester hour(s)
- **Electives 3 Semester hour(s)
- ***Social/Behavioral Science 3 Semester hour(s)
- COM 131 - Intro to Oral Communication (3 Semester Hours)

Fourth Semester - 14-15 Hours

- *Life Science 3-4 Semester hour(s)
- **Electives 4 Semester hour(s)
- ***Social & Behavioral Sciences 3 Semester hour(s)
- **EDU electives 3 Semester hour(s)
- EDU 278

Footnotes

- *One lab science required.
- **Recommended Electives include EDU 210, 221, 224, 275, PED 220, additional approved mathematics courses.
- ***Choose from GEO 122, ECO 211 or 212, PSY 200 or 214, HIS 221 or 222.