

Three Levels of Teacher Education Progress Process (TEPP)

May 2024

Level One

Application for Candidacy in Teacher Education

To apply successfully candidates must have the following:

- A minimum of 48 earned credits towards the Teacher Education Program (apply before earning 60 credits). Transfer candidates should apply for candidacy status as soon as 48 credit hours are completed and a GPA at RMU has been established. Post-bacc candidates should apply for candidacy status as soon as a GPA at RMU has been established.
- A 3.0 cumulative GPA
- For **undergraduate candidates only**:
 - Six credits of college level mathematics
 - Three credits of coursework in English Composition
 - Three credits of coursework in English, Coming of Age Literature (Secondary Education candidates), or Children's Literature (ECED, SPED, dual majors, and MLED candidates)
 - **Successful completion of Basic Skills Requirements based on Pennsylvania Department of Education assessment options (Currently Waived per Act 55 of 2022)
- PA Access to Criminal History (PATCH) (must be renewed annually)
- Department of Human Services (DHS) Child Abuse History Clearance (must be renewed annually)
- Federal Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) (FBI clearance) (must be renewed annually)
- Two faculty recommendations (RMU Faculty Recommendation for Candidacy Status). Forms are available in the Teacher Education Office and on the SNEHS website.
- Completion of Application for Admission to Candidacy Form and submission to the **Field Placement Coordinator**, who will forward the application to your Program Coordinator:
 - ✓ Dr. Susan Parker—Undergraduate teacher certification programs
 - ✓ Dr. Mary Hansen —Post-Baccalaureate teacher certification programs

The application for candidacy is reviewed and approved by the program coordinator, field placement coordinator, and Education department head. If all candidacy requirements are met, the candidate will receive a letter documenting achievement of candidacy status. With Level One candidacy, candidates may proceed into advanced teacher certification coursework and the pre-student teaching professional clinical experience.

** Basic Skills Requirement Waived Until 2025.

Act 55 of 2022 Basic Skills Assessment Moratorium Act 55 of 2022 signed into law by Governor Wolf on July 8, 2022, requires the Secretary of Education to waive the requirement to satisfactorily complete the assessment of basic skills required under section 1207.3 and 22 Pa. Code § 49.18(c) (relating to assessment) for 3 years from July 8, 2022, through July 8, 2025. This applies to all students who enter preparation programs during this period as well as otherwise qualified candidates for licensure who make application during this period.

Level Two

Application for Student Teaching/Clinical Practice

Candidates must have:

- Attained candidacy
- Applied for and successfully participated in pre-student teaching/clinical practice
- Completed or currently registered for all methods courses and major courses
- A 3.0 cumulative GPA
- Taken the PRAXIS II or PECT Exam(s) prior to the start of student teaching/clinical practice
- Renewed all clearances
- Taken a TB Test
- Acknowledgement that Proof of Liability Insurance must be presented to the Teacher Education Office two weeks before student teaching orientation. Liability Insurance may be obtained through PSEA membership, membership in the student chapter of the Council for Exceptional Children, or Private Insurance (must have a minimum of \$1,000,000 per claim and an aggregate of \$3,000,000 per occurrence if obtained via private insurance).
- Completed the Student Teaching Application and submitted it to the program coordinator

The program coordinator submits the application to the field placement coordinator, who communicates with the school districts to place candidates at a site for student teaching/clinical practice. The department head reviews the student teaching applications and placement requests and then registers candidates for student teaching with Level Two completion.

Level Three

Application for Certification

- Successful completion of Level 2
- Successful completion of PRAXIS II and/or PECT Exams
- Successful completion of student teaching/clinical practice with a passing grade
- Successful completion of the student teaching seminar course with a passing grade
 - Successful completion of the Teacher Work Sample (TWS) with a “pass” grade
 - Successful completion of an e-portfolio with a “pass” grade
- 3.0 cumulative GPA
- Completed application for RMU graduation
- Completed electronic TIMS application for teacher certification through PDE
- Sign-off and recommendation of the RMU teacher certification officer

University recommendation to the Pennsylvania Department of Education for teacher certification will be made with Level Three completion.