

Undergraduate Teacher Education Candidacy Process

Are you ready for student teaching?

Before completing a Candidacy Application, make sure you meet the basic requirements below.

Declare a certification pathway as a concentration in MaineStreet (e.g. English 7-12, K-8)
Complete EDU 100, HRD 200, EDU 222, EDU 305, and SED 335 (by Fall 2021)
Earn all Cs or better in major coursework and content area coursework
Earn all Bs or better in education coursework
Have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0
Receive the following minimum required scores on the Praxis Core: Reading: 156; Writing: 162; Math: 150; Comprehensive/Total: 468
Have no more than 6 credits outstanding for your major (by Fall 2021)

1. Create your Candidacy Application via Tk20 (free) - by December 1, 2020

USM undergraduate students in all teacher education pathways who **wish to be eligible for internship for the 2021-2022 school year** must create a **free Tk20 Candidacy Application** (see [Quick Guide](#)) **by December 1, 2020**.

Please provide the following information to **create** your application:

Declare your major and your proposed certification area

*Note: You may complete the components of the candidacy application at any time before January 31, but you must **CREATE** the application by December 1.*

2. Complete your Candidacy Application via Tk20 - by January 31, 2021

Complete your candidacy application and submit all supporting materials **by January 31, 2021**. **If you miss this deadline, you will not be eligible for internship in 2021-22.**

Please provide the following information and materials to **complete** your application:

Enter all Praxis Core scores
Upload a current resume that includes all your field experiences and other work with children
Download two letters of recommendation from the application for the following people to complete and return to Colleen Pleau (see application for more information): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a faculty member in your major someone who can speak to your work with children (e.g. field exp host teacher, employer, etc.)

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CANDIDACY APPLICATION MATERIALS CONTINUED

	Upload a brief essay (300-500 words) that responds to the following prompt: <i>The challenge of teaching is helping to ensure ALL students are learning. What would a school look like that provides all students equitable opportunity to learn? What practices to ensure ALL students are learning have you seen, know of, been part of, or been inspired to emulate?</i>
	Upload a brief reflection (300-500 words) on one event from an experience with children in a professional capacity (e.g. field experience, work, volunteering). How did that event inform your thinking about how people learn?

In addition to the above materials submitted by you, the following will be reviewed:

- Your USM transcripts
- Any survey responses of your early field experience host teachers

3. Candidacy Interviews - late February/early March 2021

Upon submitting all required materials via a Tk20 Candidacy Application and meeting all basic candidacy requirements, applicants will be invited for an interview to determine readiness for internship. **Interviews will be held late February / early March 2021 via Zoom.**

Successful Candidacy Applicants are undergraduate students who have completed the basic candidacy requirements and have demonstrated their:

- Capacity to observe and interact with children and youth and understand them as learners
- Commitment to taking feedback and showing initiative in self-improvement as a teacher
- Capacity to work as a team member, sometimes in a lead role and/or in a supporting role
- Understanding of content knowledge and a commitment to bringing that understanding to bear on teaching to, and assessing for, content knowledge
- Commitment to uphold standards of ethical educational practice

These criteria are based on **Maine State Teaching Standards 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, and 10.**

*** Questions about requirements? ***

Contact Christen Eaton, Academic Advisor for Education

christen.eaton@maine.edu | Appointments: eaton.youcanbook.me | Direct: 207.228.8315

OR Contact Gail Minichiello, Academic Advisor for Education

gail.minichiello@maine.edu | Appointments: gailminichiello.youcanbook.me | Direct: 207.228.8214

*** Questions about Tk20 or the Candidacy Application? ***

Contact Colleen Pleau, Tk20 Administrator *

colleen.pleau@maine.edu | 207.780.5772