What Should I Be Doing Now?

Teacher Education Requirements – For individuals with declared Teacher Licensure Majors these requirements can be monitored through Degree Audit on your PAWS account.

1) **Attend University Admission to Teacher Education Meeting**
   When – 1st Semester – Dates will be posted to [http://www.eiu.edu/ceps/teached.php](http://www.eiu.edu/ceps/teached.php)

2) **Maintain a minimum GPA of 2.65 cumulative & in major**
   When – Always (Higher for some programs)

3) **Purchase LiveText through University Union Bookstore**
   When – As soon as you are sure of your decision to pursue a teacher Licensure major. It is required for your professional education courses

4) **Submit Letter of Intent**
   When - Submit as part of Introduction to Education class (or during first semester)

5) **Complete Speech & Hearing Clearance**
   When – During first semester

6) **Pass Illinois Test of Academic Proficiency (TAP) or Meet ACT Composite Requirement for Teacher Education**
   When – No later than Sophomore Year – make sure score report is sent to EIU. It is highly recommended that this test be taken early and that substantial time is spent preparing for this test. Visit [http://www.eiu.edu/ceps/basicskills.php](http://www.eiu.edu/ceps/basicskills.php) for information and preparation resources.
   Note: An ACT Composite Score of 22 from the ACT plus Writing (only scores from the ACT which included the Writing sub-test can be accepted) can be substituted for the TAP (Timeframes apply). Individuals must submit an EIU Request to Use ACT Scores for Admission to Teacher Education form. More information go to [http://www.eiu.edu/ceps/teached.php](http://www.eiu.edu/ceps/teached.php).

7) **Complete First Fingerprint-based Criminal Background Investigation**
   When – During first semester – It is required that you complete this using EIU’s Illinois State Police ORI so that we get the results. Fingerprinting is completed on an appointment basis through the Department of Student Teaching and Clinical Experiences. Dates and procedures can be found at [http://www.eiu.edu/ceps/teached.php](http://www.eiu.edu/ceps/teached.php)

8) **Complete Application to Student Teaching**
   When – Fall Semester of the year prior to Student Teaching (usually Junior Year)

9) **Departmental Approval to Student Teach**
   When – Mid-term of semester prior to student teaching (but check with your department so you know requirements)
10) Complete Second Fingerprint-based Criminal Background Investigation
   When – During the semester prior to Student Teaching – It is required that you complete this using EIU’s Illinois State Police ORI so that we get the results. Fingerprinting is completed on an appointment basis through the Department of Student Teaching and Clinical Experiences. Dates and procedures can be found at http://www.eiu.edu/ceps/teached.php

11) Pass Illinois Content Area Test(s) specific to the program you are completing
   When – No later than the semester prior to Student Teaching (this test must be passed before beginning Student Teaching). Make sure score reports are sent to EIU.

12) Pass the appropriate Illinois Assessment of Professional Teaching (APT)
   When – Most individuals take this during their last semester of coursework or during student teaching.

13) Complete EIU Entitlement Request Form for your Teaching License
   When – Student Teaching Semester

NOTE: Beginning in 2013 we will begin phasing in the Teacher Performance Assessment (TPA) as required by the Illinois State Board of Education. Beginning in 2015 the State of Illinois will require that the TPA be passed in order to successfully complete student teaching.

Other Suggestions/Requirements

1) Join and become active in professional organizations

2) Volunteer in the schools, at events and with organizations working with kids

3) Attend conferences, professional development workshops, and other activities related to your program

4) It is never too early to start networking

5) If you are Elementary or Secondary consider adding the middle grades endorsement (also encourage you to add the middle grades practicum)

6) Know the standards (Common Core, Professional Teaching Standards, Content Standards)

7) Monitor the Illinois State Board of Education Website

GET INVOLVED AND STAY INVOLVED!!!!!

Fall 2013