Professional Education Budget Considerations:

An important part of your teacher education program is time spent in area schools. You will observe, assist, and teach in a variety of public school settings. It is important that you begin, early in your program, to prepare for the costs you may incur associated with these experiences. These costs include Licensure tests, LiveText, Criminal Background investigations, travel (your own vehicle or contributing financially when carpooling), and appropriate clothing for professional experiences. All cost figures are estimates.

Illinois Licensure Tests

- **Test of Academic Proficiency (TAP)**  ($125)
  Required for selection to all teacher Licensure programs. Candidates who achieve an ACT Composite Score of 22 or higher on the ACT plus Writing can use that score in lieu of the TAP.

- **Content Area Tests**  ($125)
  All students must pass the appropriate content area test by the end of the semester prior to beginning student teaching. Some students might be required to pass more than one content test.
  > Candidates completing the approved program in Special Education are encouraged to contact the EIU Department of Special Education regarding their testing requirements. Special pricing applies to the Special Education tests.
  > Candidates wishing to add additional endorsements are also required to pass the appropriate content area test in that field

- **edTPA**  ($300)
  The edTPA is a state required teacher performance assessment portfolio that is completed during the student teaching semester. Beginning in Fall 2015 this assessment must be completed in order to receive a license to teach. At that time it will be externally scored and have a cost of approximately $300.

*LiveText (e-portfolio)*  (approx. $100)

  - This is required of all teacher education students. The one-time fee covers the use of the license for the length of the student’s teacher education program.

Criminal Background Investigations (CBI):

All candidates must submit to two fingerprint based Criminal Background Investigations.

  - Prior to University Approval to take Teacher Education Courses ($30)
  - The semester prior to Student Teaching ($30)

Travel:

Field Experiences (also called “Observations”, “Block”, “CORE”, or “Practicum”) require travel to and from schools, as well as professional attire.

Examples of courses included in Field Experience I (Introduction to Education):

  - SED 2000, MUS 2440, CTE 2000, ART 2400, ELE 2050
Examples of courses included in Field Experience II & III:
- SED 3330, ELE 3100, ELE 3250, ELE 4100, MLE 4100
- Content methods classes for secondary education and P-12 programs

Travel for Field Experience I Classes:
- You will travel to observe classroom activities and complete specific class activities outlined in your course syllabi.
- Transportation is your responsibility and you should budget accordingly.

Travel for Field Experience II and III Classes:
- You must travel to your practicum placement. You may have to travel up to 60 miles, each way (up to five days per week for six weeks).
- Car pooling may be available but all are expected to share expenses

Professional Dress:
The following is a list of guidelines that you should follow.
- Your clothing should be neat and clean and reflect a mature and professional attitude
- Clothing should be conservative. (Collared shirts for males, no low-rise pants, low-cut shirts, or revealing clothing.)
- Shoes should appear professional (gym shoes are only appropriate in a PE setting; no flip flops)

Student Teaching:
Professional Dress –
In matters of dress in the classroom, all student teachers must abide by the guidelines and standards set by the school system and specific school to which they are assigned. Each student teacher has an obligation to become informed at the beginning of the student teaching assignment regarding these guidelines and standards and to observe them throughout the student teaching experience. Good grooming, including personal hygiene, is expected of all student teachers. Dress should be conservative and allow for easy and comfortable movement.

Travel –
You are to provide your own transportation to and from your student teaching placement. You are to meet all expectations of your student teaching assignments (for example, parent-teacher conferences, music competitions and after school activities). You are expected to attend the student teaching seminars at the location your university coordinator establishes.