

ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM



Education department

Persons with a degree other than education may seek alternative certification to teach at the Secondary level in Missouri.

Requirements include a minimum GPA of 3.0, a record of general education sufficient to meet Columbia College standards, and three (3) years of post-baccalaureate employment experience. If such a person has a valid provisional contract to teach in a school district, he/she is eligible to directly enter into the Alternative Certification Program (18 hours + 2 years of supervision while working as a teacher). Persons wishing to make themselves eligible for employment, and eventual admission into the Alternative Certification Program, may complete the course sequence and receive a letter of completion eligibility.

A candidate for admission to the **Alternative Certification Program** must present evidence of the following:

- A baccalaureate degree (minimum GPA of 2.5 required by the state for certification; admission to Columbia College requires minimum GPA of 3.0) with a major in Art, Biology, Business, Chemistry, General Science, Language Arts (English), a Social Studies discipline, or Mathematics. Included in the degree must be general education coursework that has been determined by the Evaluations Office to be sufficient to meet Columbia College standards
- Three years of professional (post-baccalaureate) employment experience
- A valid current teaching (not aiding) contract with a school district
- Eligible for admission to the Master of Arts in Teaching program at the main campus

Required in the **Program of Study** (18 hours) for Alternative Certification are:

EDUC 507	Integrative Project (Initiating and Culminating Experience)*
EDUC 505	Instructional Theory and Techniques
EDUC 525	Educating Exceptional Individuals
EDUC 560	Theories of Learning
EDUC 563	Managing Classroom Environments
EDUC 580	Methods of Effective Academic Evaluation

**Continuous enrollment in EDUC 507E until observation and portfolio are complete.*

Additional content area courses may be required by MoDESE.

Missouri Content Assessment(s) - **Appropriate examination must be successfully completed by the end of the first year of the two-year Academic Contract or the contract is void.**