Undergraduate-Level Teacher Certification Checklist
(Undergrad-level Post-Baccalaureate)
EARLY CHILDHOOD (Birth – Grade 3)

Columbia College
established 1851

Education department

POST BACCALAUREATE STUDENTS ARE ONLY ELIGIBLE TO TAKE COURSES REQUIRED FOR CERTIFICATION. NON-CERTIFICATION COURSES ARE NOT COVERED BY FINANCIAL AID.

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION COURSEWORK **84 hrs**

Grade	Course #	Course Title	Cr Hrs	Field Experience (observation hrs) included
	SOCI 270	Diversity and Society	3	n/a
	CDEV 106	Child Health, Nutrition, and Safety	3	n/a
	EDUC 200	Law, Ethics, and Education	3	15 hrs
	EDUC 220	Methods of Teaching English Learners	3	n/a
	EDUC 230	Educational Psychology	3	n/a
	EDUC 280	Language Acquisition and Emergent Literacy	3	n/a
	CDEV 290	Infants and Toddlers	3	n/a
	CDEV 291	Early and Middle Childhood	3	n/a
	EDUC 300	Techniques of Teaching	3	15 hrs
	EDUC 390	Education & Psychology of the Exceptional Child	3	n/a
	EDUC 392	Adolescent Psychology *(or EDUC 396 – Child and Adolescent Development)*	3	n/a
		Admission to the Teacher Certification Program (See Teacher Certification Program Checklist)		
	EDUC 311	Classroom Management Techniques	3	15 hrs
	CDEV 312	Integrated Curriculum for Children	3	n/a
	CDEV 314	Motor Development and Play	3	n/a
	CDEV 316	Engaging Families as Educational Partners	3	n/a
	CDEV 318	Community Partnerships to Support Whole Child Development	3	n/a
	EDUC 321	Teaching Reading and Language Arts to Young Children	3	15 hrs
	CDEV 324	Observation and Assessment of Young Children	3	n/a
	EDUC 328	The Early Childhood Educational Environment	3	n/a
	EDUC 331	Teaching of Reading	3	15 hrs
	CDEV 335	Teaching Creative Arts and Movement to Children	3	n/a
	EDUC 353	Administration of Early Childhood Programs	3	n/a
	EDUC 355	Teaching Math and Science to Young Children	3	15 hrs
	EDUC 400	Senior Seminar	3	n/a
		Approval for Student Teaching (See Student Teaching Checklist)		
	EDUC 425	Undergraduate Student Teaching	12	16 weeks

[The College reserves the right to alter at any time requirements to meet state certification regulations.]

		Total Credit Hours	84	
		Approval for DESE certification recommendation (See DESE Certification checklist)		

Retention Criteria:

- Complete at least 6 hours of professional education each year
- Complete Field Experiences and receive favorable evaluations from cooperating teachers and college supervisors
- Maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above in professional education courses and GPA of 2.5 or above in content area courses

Other requirements that must be completed prior to certification:

- Successful completion/passing of appropriate Content Area Assessment - Praxis
- Successful completion of program certification performance assessment - MEES

Other Requirements:

Post-Baccalaureate certification students completing the FAFSA to receive financial aid for certification must complete the following questions on the 2026-27 FAFSA accordingly:

Section 4 – Student College or Career School Plans:

- "When the student begins the 2026-27 school year, what will their college grade level be?" – Answer "Other undergraduate (junior year and beyond)"
- "When the student begins the 2026-27 school year, will they already have their first bachelor's degree?" – Answer "Yes"
- "Will the student be pursuing an initial teaching certification at the elementary or secondary level?" – Answer "Yes"

https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa

Graduate Post-Bacc and the MAT degree

If you are planning to reapply to the college for the Graduate Post-Baccalaureate program (in order to take some of your certification courses at the graduate level), note that you may want to delay some courses until after you're admitted to the Graduate Post-Bacc program. For example, the graduate equivalent for SOCI 270 and EDUC 230 (EDUC 555 and EDUC 560) are core courses for the MAT (Master of Arts in Teaching) degree.

*This is not a degree checklist
Beg. 8/2026

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