

# Considering Teacher Education

*Is a Career in Teaching Right for Me?*

## About Teacher Education

Teacher Education is a one year post-graduate program required for those who wish to pursue a career in teaching. Students interested in applying must complete a minimum of a 3-year postsecondary degree. Upon graduating from a teacher education program, a teacher must be certified by the Ontario College of Teachers and pay an annual membership fee to maintain their certification as a teacher in Ontario. Concurrent programs are also available, where a Bachelor of Education can be obtained at the same time as completing an undergraduate degree in another discipline.

## Questions to Ask Yourself...

- Why do I want to be a teacher? Do I enjoy working with children and/or youth?
- Do I see myself being an effective teacher? Will I instill confidence in my students?
- Is teaching a profession that I see myself doing in 10 to 20 years from now?
- What grades do I want to teach and why?
- What are my teachable subjects? Do I have enough credits towards a teachable subject?
- Would I be willing to relocate for my education or to find a teaching position?
- Which teacher education programs are a good fit for me?

## Teaching Programs by Grade-level

### **Primary/Junior (Junior Kindergarten to Grade 6)**

- A teachable subject is not required, however, a program that is related to child studies may be advantageous

### **Junior/Intermediate (Grade 4 to Grade 10)**

- One teachable subject is required. An average of 18 units is needed to be considered a teachable subject, but requirements differ at each school

### **Intermediate/Senior (Grade 7 to Grade 12)**

- Two teachable subjects are required. An average of 30 units is needed for the first teachable and 18 units for the second teachable, but requirements differ at each school

## Factors to Consider

- You will need at least 2 months to research schools and prepare your applications. The deadline for applying to Ontario teacher education programs is typically towards the end of November each year. Deadlines for schools outside of Ontario and Canada will differ, so you will need to check deadlines for each school individually.
- Program requirements and fees for each school may be different. Be sure to check that you meet the academic requirements and teachable requirements for the different grade levels.
- The majority of applications will require descriptions of your relevant volunteer experiences. These can include such things as classroom or school-based experiences, working one-on-one with students, developing curriculum or programs, working with children with special needs, evaluating and report-making or supervising children.

## The Application Process

Applying to teachers college can be done online at [www.ouac.on.ca/teas](http://www.ouac.on.ca/teas). Application requirements will differ from school to school. Required documents and fees typically include:

- A Personal Statement
- Professional References
- Elaborate descriptions of Volunteer Experiences
- Short Essay on Your Desire to Teach
- Transcript Fees
- Administration Fees
- Supplementary Fees

## Who offers Teacher Education Programs?

### Ontario:

- Brock University
- Lakehead University
- Laurentian University
- Nipissing University
- Trent University
- University of Ottawa
- Queen's University
- University of Toronto
- UOIT
- University of Western Ontario
- Wilfrid Laurier University
- University of Windsor
- York University

### New York State:

- Canisius College
- Daemen College
- D'Youville University
- Gannon University
- Medaille College
- Niagara University
- University of Buffalo

### Overseas:

- CanTeach: *Australia, New Zealand, Ireland and Wales* ([www.canteach.net](http://www.canteach.net))
- KOM Consultants: *Australia and the United Kingdom* ([www.komconsultants.com](http://www.komconsultants.com))
- World of Education Teachers College Directory ([www.educationworld.net](http://www.educationworld.net))

## Resources available in Career Services

### 101 Career Alternatives for Teachers

*by Margaret M. Gisler*

### Degree Exploration Guide for Education

- Lists career options and skills for education majors, and resources for volunteering, further education and job search

### Expert Resumes for Teachers & Educators

*by Wendy S. Enelow and Louise M Kursmark*

### Mastering the Personal Statement

*by John Richardson*

### Opportunities in Teaching English to Speakers of other Languages

*by Blythe Camenson*

### Teachers College Binder & Handouts

- Includes a list of schools offering Teacher Education programs, instructions for application, and admission requirements for Teachers College at Brock University



Career Services