

Office Of Educator Preparation, Southeast Missouri State University

Teacher Preparation News January 28, 2026



*If you have news that would be useful to teacher candidates, email edprep@semo.edu by 12:00 noon on the **Friday** prior to the publication date to have it included in the next newsletter. ***Some newsletter hyperlinks are not compatible with iPad*** Follow this [link](#) for recent past newsletters.*

Candidate Status & Certification

Changes in Illinois Educator Licensure (Initial Certification)

All educators are now required to pass the Illinois content test prior to receiving the professional educator license (PEL), including educators who are pursuing the reciprocity route to licensure. The Illinois State Board of Education will begin incorporating the four topics required for initial licensure (Methods of Teaching Special Education, Methods of Teaching Reading, Reading in the Content Area, and Methods of Teaching English Learners) into a test that will be required as part of initial licensure. This will go into effect on **January 1, 2026**. For more information, please stop by the Office of Educator Preparation.

Field Experiences Office

Student Entering Student Teaching in the Next Semester

With the extreme teacher shortage, many students are applying for jobs prior to student teaching. Please understand that all requirements for the student teaching placement remain in effect. (Student Teaching MAP, certification requirements, etc. as per the handbook). If a district contacts a student regarding employment, please notify the Field Office before interviewing for a position. There are many pieces that must be in place for the student to qualify for certification at the end of their culminating experience. The Field Office needs to ensure that all requirements are met before a student signs a contract.

Triad Information

Triad attendance is mandatory and must be attended at the beginning of the semester of student teaching. Students must complete the Triad meeting (the university supervisor, the mentor teacher, and the student) PRIOR to beginning the student teaching experience. In Student Teaching, students will follow the assigned school district's schedule. Triad dates have been set in advance to provide plenty of opportunities to avoid conflicts. Triads are usually held in Cape, Sikeston, and St. Louis. Times and places are not set as we are unable to secure rooms in advance.

Fall 2026 – August 12, 13, and 14

Spring 2027 – January 5, 6, and 7

Fall 2027 – August 17, 18, and 19

Events/Student Meetings & Information

Golf School District 67 Hiring

Middle School Science vacancy, please see application [here](#).

Fort Zumwalt School District Certified Educator Hiring Fair

Hiring for the 2026-2027 school year, guaranteed interview! This event will take place on **February 7th from 8:00 A.M. –12:00 P.M. at 1138 Tom Ginnever Avenue, O’Fallon, MO 63366**. Please register [here](#).

Independent Schools of St. Louis Teacher Job Fair

Meet and interview with 29 Private Independent Schools.

- Positions: Teachers and coaches, PreK-12
- Certification a plus, but not necessary
- BA/BS degree minimum (obtained by January 2026)
- All majors welcome

This event will take place on **February 21st from 10:00 A.M. –12:30 P.M. at Central Christian School, 700 S. Hanley, St. Louis, MO**. Please register [here](#).

Save the Date!

Education, Health, & Human Studies Basketball Night **February 26th!**

Camp War Eagle

Looking for a job? Camp War Eagle is hiring for next summer! More information found [here](#).

SEMO NASV FREE 2-Hour Class!

A Guide for Mandated Reporters: Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse, **sign up [here](#)!**
Class Content:

- Definition, Signs and Symptoms of the 4 types of child abuse
- Responding to abuse disclosures
- Your role as a member of the multidisciplinary team in regard to suspected cases of child abuse
- Making the hotline call/online reporting
- Protecting yourself in the workplace
- Primary abuse prevention
- Reporting information for all states

All participants will receive a handbook and certificate of completion! **Multiple times and dates are available!**

SEMO NSSLHA

Who? Students in Communication Disorders, Special Education, and Related Fields.

When? Meetings are held **at 12:15 P.M. on the first Wednesday of each month in Grauel 113!**

Social Studies Educators Association

Will meet the third Tuesday of each month from **12:30-1:00 P.M. in Carnahan 306.**

Ed Prep Spotlight

Vote for February Faculty/Staff Spotlight Winner Now

Students, please vote for the February Ed Prep Faculty/Staff Spotlight winner by using this [form](#) by February 16.

Vote for February Student Spotlight Winner Now

Faculty/Staff, please vote for the February Ed Prep Student Spotlight winner by using this [form](#) by February 16.

Scholarships

2025-2026 MARE Scholarship

The Missouri Association of Rural Education offers two scholarship programs for students interested in becoming teachers and returning to rural school districts to teach. The first program is the MARE Rural Missouri Scholarship Fund. This program is open to only junior and senior level students attending Missouri colleges or universities that offer degrees in education. Applicants must have completed 60 or more credit hours and have declared a major in education. Last year, MARE provided twenty-two (22) \$1,000.00 scholarships. They plan to present 20-25 \$1,000.00 scholarships this year alone! **Information about this program is available [here](#).** The deadline to apply for this scholarship is **Friday, March 13, 2026**. Materials must be received by this date! **You can visit the link above to access the application or visit the Ed Prep Office in Scully 301 to get a copy.**

Jack J. Isgur Foundation Scholarship

Scholarship Criteria

The purpose of the Foundation is to provide funds for students majoring in education at four-year colleges. The Foundation provides funds to students who are entering their junior (or subsequent) year of college and who have indicated a desire to teach the humanities (e.g., literature, philosophy, fine arts, music, art or poetry) at the elementary or middle school levels. The Foundation prefers to provide funds to students who are interested in teaching within the State of Missouri or Kansas in rural rather than metropolitan districts.

Applications must be submitted by **May 15, 2026**, **You can visit this [link](#), or visit the Ed Prep Office in Scully 301 to get a copy.**

MSTA Scholarship

MSTA (Missouri State Teachers Association) offers several scholarships. See this [link](#) for more information.

SEMO Scholarships

There are many [endowed scholarships](#) available to students each year. Check them out!

EDvolution Center

Newsletter

The latest edition of the EDvolution Ed Prep Newsletter can be found [here](#).

Educator Preparation

#Southeast Missouri State University Educator Preparation Program

#semoeducatorpreparation



Ed Prep Student Orgs

If you have any news or meeting announcements that you would like to share and publish in this newsletter, please email the information to edprep@semo.edu by the Friday before the next weekly Tuesday issue. We would like to hear from you!

Student Teaching Placement Information

Watch this [attached video](#) for information on the how this process works.

Do you have Items to Share on Facebook Related to Educator Prep?

There is lots of valuable information on our Ed Prep Facebook page. Please share and like this page! If you have any items to post, please submit them to edprep@semo.edu!

Employment Information

New full and part-time positions are posted at [Handshake](#). You can also check out [Missouri Teaching JOBS](#) or [MOREAP.net](#) Or [Missouri Teacher Job Search Platform](#)

