

Office Of Educator Preparation, Southeast Missouri State University

Teacher Preparation News October 7, 2025



*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.

Important Changes

Changes in Admission to TPP

The required GPA for admission to TPP has changed from 2.75 to 2.5. Effective July 1, 2025.

Changes in Graduation Requirements

- A 3.0 GPA in pedagogy coursework is required for all Education majors.

- A 2.5 GPA in content coursework is required for all middle school, secondary, and K-12 programs except Exceptional Child K-12, Music K-12 and Social Studies 9-12, which require a 3.0 GPA in content coursework.

Changes in Teacher Certification

- A final 3.0 GPA in pedagogy coursework is required for all Education majors. A final 2.5 GPA in content coursework is required for all middle school, secondary, and K-12 programs (excluding Exceptional Child K-12).
- A passing score on the appropriate licensure exam(s) as required by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.
- A passing score on the Teacher Candidate Instrument of the Missouri Educator Evaluation System.
- MSHP/FBI background clearance from no earlier than one year prior to the date of the application for certification.

Praxis

Test Registration Reminders

When registering for Praxis exams, please remember the following:

- When you register for your Praxis exam(s), be sure to select Southeast Missouri State University so that your scores will be sent to Ms. Lincoln in a timely manner.
- Include your **Social Security Number** when creating a profile. This is currently listed as optional on the site but in order for DESE's certification system to connect scores to an individual, they need an SSN tied to them. We are working with ETS to change the language on the site to reflect that this is a requirement for Missouri.
- Test takers receive a free Interactive Practice Test when they purchase their exam. This free practice test does not show in your cart until close to the end of the checkout process. There are pop-ups to add on extra practice tests or study material prior to the free test showing in your cart.
- When taking the test at home, Microsoft Edge is the preferred browser. Customer Service advised that using Microsoft Edge resolves some of the technical issues one may encounter when registering.

Praxis Vouchers

We should receive more vouchers sometime in September. More information to come in the September newsletter.

Study Guides Available/Updated Canvas Page

Praxis Study guides are available on [Canvas](#). You should receive an invitation to a Canvas Course titled Pre-Service Teacher Resources, which will house study guides and other resources related to educator preparation. If you would like access and don't have it, please email edprep@semo.edu.

240 Tutoring Praxis Exam Credit

If you would like a 240 Tutoring credit to use to study for your Praxis Exam, go to the Pre-Service Teacher Resources [Canvas](#) page to apply and for more information!

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.

Background Checks

If you are planning to do field work in PreK-12 school buildings during the Spring 2025 semester, you are required to have an up-to-date fingerprint background check on file with

the Teacher Preparation Program. Field work courses include CE368, CE480, ED280, EL314, EL350, EL430, EL480, EX309, EX480, ME222, ME270, SE551, SE380, SE465, SE651, and any other course that requires field work in a school. (If you previously obtained a background check for the Southeast Missouri State University Teacher Preparation Program, it has not expired.) To see if your background check is up to date with the Teacher Preparation Program you can find this information in your Support Net Notes section. To obtain a new background check, you must go to the following website and follow the directions provided: <https://semo.edu/field-experiences/undergrad-teacher/background-check.html>

Field Experiences Office

Student Teaching Placements

Student Teaching Placements for Spring 2026 will be released on **11/14/25**.

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 in regard to 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.

Important Field Transportation Information

Students enrolled in field coursework are responsible for their own transportation. Questions concerning transportation may be referred to the instructors or the Office of Field Experiences.

Triad Information

Triad attendance is mandatory and must be attended at the beginning of the semester of student teaching. If you are a student teaching in the spring semester, it is an absolute requirement that you attend one of the Triad sessions.

Upcoming Triad Dates for 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.

Spring 2026 – January 5, 6, and 7

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

Job Openings for McKinley Classical Leadership Academy

McKinley Classical Leadership Academy is a unique 6–12 school that blends academic excellence, leadership development, and community, and is excited to announce teaching openings for:

- [Middle School Math](#)
- [Middle School Computer Science](#)
- [High School CTE - Business Education](#)

SMSTA Meeting

SMSTA will be meeting on **Tuesday, October 7th, at 7:00 P.M.** to hear from early childhood counselor, Jill Hadler, and discuss the upcoming MSTA Convention. You can join us in the

EDvolution Center or via Zoom. For the Zoom link or any questions, please email SMSTA President, Gabby Kozuszek.

Homecoming Events

Thursday, October 16

- Academic Showcase 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
 - **Teaching Transformed / 1 p.m.**
Explore the EDvolution Center and discover how SEMO students and faculty are using cutting-edge tools to revolutionize the way we teach students to teach and learn.
 - **Fearless Futures: Educators in Action / 1:30 p.m.**
Join a panel of recent graduates who are shaping the future of education—one fearless step at a time.

Friday, October 17

- Fearless Fest Block Party – 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
 - Normal Street

Saturday, October 18

- Homecoming Parade/Game
 - Parade starts at 9:30 a.m.
 - Football Game starts at 2:00 p.m.

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 (next meetings are **Oct. 21 and Nov. 18**) from **12:30-1:00 P.M. in Carnahan 306.**

Ed Prep Spotlight

New Administrative Assistant in the Office of Ed Prep!

We would like to welcome our new Administrative Assistant in the Office of Educator Preparation! Welcome Andrea, we are so excited to have you!

Vote for September Faculty/Staff Spotlight Winner Now

Students, please vote for the September Ed Prep Faculty/Staff Spotlight winner by using this [form](#) by [October 20](#).

Vote for September Student Spotlight Winner Now

Faculty/Staff, please vote for the September Ed Prep Student Spotlight winner by using this [form](#) by [October 20](#).

Scholarships

MSTA Scholarship

MSTA (Missouri State Teachers Association) offers several scholarships. See this [link](#) for more information. Please note that MSTa is working on their website, so check back later if scholarships are not loading.

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](#)

