

Application for Admission

Bachelor of Science in Education

Certification in Elementary and Special Education



GORDON
STATE COLLEGE

About the Program

A maximum number of qualified junior year candidates will be admitted each fall semester for the program. The schedule of the program of studies is listed below. This will lead to certification in early childhood and special education general curriculum (P-5).

Note the requirement includes a summer semester. Candidates will participate in cohorts for all coursework, including field experiences and teaching internships (900 hours total) to be arranged with area elementary school partners. Graduates must also complete Georgia certification requirements including passing scores on appropriate GACE tests.

Admission Procedures

Admission to the Bachelor of Science in Education Program is granted on a space-available basis. Applications that meet all admission requirements will be ranked according to their qualifications and admitted in order of their rank, starting with the most qualified, until all available spaces are filled. As such, not all individuals who meet the admission requirements may be admitted. **The application process will open in early January, and review of completed applications will begin as soon as they are received.** Since the program of studies involves working in schools, prospective candidates must also consent to a criminal background check. Once admitted to the program, finger printing may be required prior to field placement.

Special Note

Disciplinary action at Gordon State College and any other institution that the student has attended, including the military, may prevent admission. Additionally, two disciplinary referral forms received by the School of Education may prevent admission or result in dismissal from the BSSED program after admission. Refer to the Gordon State College Undergraduate Catalog for further details. Applicants should be aware of and agree to the Georgia Educator Code of Ethics.

Notification of Acceptance

Because this is a high demand major, fall admission will be limited, and not all applicants will be admitted. Applicants will be notified by Gordon State College email of Unconditional Acceptance, Acceptance with Conditions, Non-Acceptance, or placement on a waiting list.

Direct Contact Information:

Dr. Stephen A. Raynie, Dean
School of Education, Math, and Applied Sciences

101 Smith Hall
Gordon State College
419 College Drive
Barnesville, Georgia 30204
678-359-5468

sraynie@gordonstate.edu

*NOTE: It is **recommended** that completed applications be received no later than March 31.

Fall Semester Junior Year

MATH 3001	Topics in Algebra for ECE
LART 3005	Introduction to Teaching of Reading
SPED 3100	Characteristics of Students with Mild Disabilities
EDUC 3003	Classroom Management
EDUC 3500	Professionalism: Field Experience I

Spring Semester Junior Year

MATH 3002	Geometry for Teachers
LART 3090	Literature for Children
SPED 4200	Educational Interventions for Students with Mild Disabilities
EDUC 3200	Educational Technology and Media
EDUC 3501	Professionalism: Field Experience II

Summer Semester

EDUC 3000	Integrated and Applied Arts
EDUC 3002	Assessment in ECE
EDUC 3300	Integrated Social Studies
EDUC 4200	Science in Early Childhood Education

Fall Semester Senior Year

MATH 3003	Data Analysis, Probability, and Connections
SPED 4000	Educational Assessment of Exceptional Children
LART 3006	Teaching Reading in Content Areas
EDUC 4001	Early Childhood Methods Materials
LART 3007	Analysis & Correction of Reading Problems
EDUC 3502	Professionalism: Field Experience III

Spring Semester Senior Year

EDUC 4204	Internship: Early Childhood Ed.
EDUC 4404	Internship: Special Education
EDUC 3090	Classroom Data Analysis

Application Packet - Instructions

Admission Requirements

1. Applicants must be first admitted to Gordon State College and be in “good” academic standing with the College.
2. Applicants must be on track to complete all lower-level courses in the Teacher Education Pathway (Elementary) by the end of the summer semester before entering this program in the fall.
3. Applicants must have a grade of "C" or higher in all BSED lower-level core courses.
4. Applicants must have a grade of “C” or higher in core math and written communication courses aligned with or specified by University System of Georgia institutions.
5. Applicants should have an overall last attempt GPA of 2.75 or better.
6. Applicants transferring credits for this program must provide official transcripts.
7. Each applicant must provide a personally written short essay as indicated on the application. Applicants who copy from other sources, use AI tools, or otherwise misrepresent their effort may be disqualified from consideration.
8. Applicants must provide three (3) professional recommendations using provided forms. Applicants should complete their portion of the professional recommendation form and give it to an employer, someone familiar with their academic ability, or someone familiar with their ability to work with children. Professional recommendations may not come from personal friends, relatives, or social acquaintances.
9. Applicants must provide two (2) Disposition Assessment forms. For paraprofessional applicants, one MUST be completed by a building supervisor and the other by a co-teacher or school system human resources officer.
10. Applicants must establish individual MyPSC accounts with the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC) at: www.mypsc.gapsc.org .
 - Accepted applicants will be required to obtain a GaPSC Pre-service Certificate before beginning the program. Failure to do so may result in removal from the program. The Pre-Service Certificate application includes the following.
 - Take or provide proof of having taken the GACE Ethics Assessment 360 through GaPSC.
 - Submit to Georgia Professional Standards Commission a Verification of Lawful Presence along with valid photo ID.
 - Give permission for GaPSC to conduct a background check, which must be completed before any admitted candidate may participate in field experiences in any school.
11. It is recommended that applicants **submit a complete application by March 31**. Applications are complete when they contain all the elements specified here.
12. Qualified applicants may be asked to schedule an interview.

Notice of Disclaimer: Gordon State College’s BSED in Elementary Education is fully accredited for meeting Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) requirements.

Student Information

This completed application should be emailed to: Kelly Wilson, kellyw@gordonstate.edu with the Subject Line: Elementary Application or mailed/delivered to: Teacher Education Admissions, Gordon State College, Smith Hall, 419 College Drive, Barnesville, GA 30204

Full Name _____
First Middle Last

Other name(s) on file at Gordon State College _____

Date of Birth _____ Gordon State College ID # _____

Gordon e-mail address _____ Other e-mail address _____

Gender: Male ☐ Female ☐ Other ☐

Ethnic Group(s): ☐ American Indian/Alaska Native ☐ Black/African American ☐ White/Caucasian
☐ Asian ☐ Hispanic ☐ Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander ☐ Other

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone: (_____) _____ Work Phone - optional: (_____) _____

Cell Phone: (_____) _____

Pathways

There are two pathways for certification in Elementary Education/Special Education General Curriculum. Both pathways require the same lower-level courses as well as the same courses within the bachelor's degree program. Both programs require the GACE and related non-course requirements. The course rotation is the same for both pathways. The traditional pathway is open for all applicants. Students in the traditional program will be placed in a practicum setting by our Director of Field Placement. The parapro-to-teacher pathway requires that a student have a position as paraprofessional in a public school setting. The student will be responsible for communicating with his/her principal and devising a plan for practicums within the school system. Note that these practicums must be in the K-5 setting. Courses will be held online for paraprofessionals only.

I am applying to the

☐ Traditional Pathway

☐ Parapro-to-Teacher Pathway

If applying to the Parapro-to-Teacher Pathway, please provide:

Name of the school in which you are a paraprofessional: _____

Name of the school system in which you are a paraprofessional: _____

The number of years you have been a paraprofessional in that system: _____

Your designation as a paraprofessional (ie: Pre-K, Special Education, etc.): _____

Academic History

Please indicate all that apply to your academic history.

I am currently enrolled at Gordon State College. Yes No

I am not currently enrolled but was previously enrolled at Gordon State College. ☐ Yes No

Most recent semester and year attended Gordon State College _____

Employment History

Please list most recent employment first.

1. Name of Employer: _____
Position: _____ Dates of Employment: (from - to) _____
If currently employed, indicate present.
Supervisor's full name and title: _____
Contact number for supervisor: (_____) _____ Permission to contact? ☐ Yes ☐ No
2. Name of Employer: _____
Position: _____ Dates of Employment: (from - to) _____
If currently employed, indicate present.
Supervisor's full name and title: _____
Contact number for supervisor: (_____) _____ Permission to contact? ☐ Yes ☐ No
3. Name of Employer: _____
Position: _____ Dates of Employment: (from - to) _____
If currently employed, indicate present.
Supervisor's full name and title: _____
Contact number for supervisor: (_____) _____ Permission to contact? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Essay

Instructions: Please write a short essay in the space provided on why you want to be a teacher. This essay will be evaluated for content, grammar, and composition.

Applicants considered for admission may be asked to supply additional information and be invited for an interview to determine suitability to the profession. **Applicants who have ever been arrested, convicted, sentenced, pled guilty, or pled nolo contendere or been given first offender status for any felony, a crime involving moral turpitude or a crime violating a federal law involving controlled substances or dangerous drugs or a DUI or DWI may be denied admission to the program.** For additional information see www.gapsc.com.

I certify that all statements made in this application are complete and true. I understand that falsification or omission of information requested may result in my application being denied.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

This completed application should be emailed to: Kelly Wilson, kellyw@gordonstate.edu with the Subject Line: Elementary Application or mailed/delivered to: Teacher Education Admissions, Gordon State College, Smith Hall, 419 College Drive, Barnesville, GA 30204

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