Teacher Education Services

Web Site: http://www.education.odu.edu/tes/

Education Building
Suite 2345
757-683-6448

Jody Sommerfeldt, Interim Director

The staff in the Office of Teacher Education Services (TES) in the Darden College of Education supports teacher education programs in the College of Arts and Letters, the College of Science, and the Darden College of Education. In this role of support, the mission of the Office of TES is to provide, facilitate, promote, and uphold the standards of Old Dominion University to grant undergraduate and graduate degrees with a teacher education emphasis in the following areas:

- PreK-3
- PreK-6
- 6-8
- 6-12
- K-12
- guidance and counseling

Mission

Teacher Education Services is committed to serving students pursuing a professional education emphasis through their respective college's academic department and fostering a process guided by the following features:

- To advise prospective teacher candidates pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree with a teacher education emphasis and develop appropriate academic plans.
- To promote teacher education and inform teacher candidates of opportunities which may include scholarships, study abroad, and credentialing requirements.
- To ensure prospective teacher candidates meet admission, continuance and graduation exit requirements for their respective teacher education degree and post-baccalaureate endorsement programs.
- To facilitate the placement of field experiences for teacher candidates in appropriate K-12 classroom settings to meet observation, practicum, and student teaching internship requirements.
- To facilitate the process of the Virginia teaching license application by assisting candidates after completion of the state-approved program.

Accreditation

The emphasis areas are accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) which is now Council for the Accreditation of Education Preparation (CAEP), the Council on Accreditation of Counseling and Related Program (CACREP), and approved by the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE).

Students seeking a graduate degree in speech-language pathology will be eligible for licensure through the Board of Audiology and Speech Pathology. Students can consult the graduate program director for guidance in obtaining licensure, sraymer@odu.edu. (sraymer@odu.edu)

Prescribed Virginia Board of Education Assessment for Admission to an Approved Teacher Education Program

Old Dominion University students seeking admission to an approved teacher education program must satisfy the Virginia Board of Education Required Assessment for Admission to an Approved Teacher Education Program. This requirement can be satisfied by meeting a passing score in one of the selected criteria below:

1. Passing Praxis Core Academic Skills Tests beginning January 1, 2014:
   - Reading Score of 156, Writing Score of 162, and Mathematics Score of 150; or
   - Approved substitute test scores; or
   - SAT score of 1000 with at least 450 verbal and 510 mathematics taken prior to April 1, 1995; or
   - ACT Mathematics test score of at least 22, and ACT English plus Reading score of at least 46, taken after April 1, 1995; or
   - ACT composite score of 24 with ACT mathematics score of at least 21, and ACT English plus Reading score of at least 37, taken prior to April 1, 1995; or
   - Praxis I Math test score of 178 if earned by December 31, 2013 and a composite Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment (hereafter referred to as the VCLA) score of 470; or
   - Praxis Core Academic Skills Mathematics test score of 150 beginning January 1, 2014 and a VCLA score of 470; or
   - SAT Mathematics test score of at least 510 taken prior to April 1, 1995 and a VCLA score of 470; or
   - SAT Mathematics test score of at least 530 taken after April 1, 1995 and a composite VCLA score of 470; or
   - ACT Mathematics test score of at least 21 taken prior to April 1, 1995 and a composite VCLA score of 470; or
   - ACT Mathematics test score of at least 22 taken after April 1, 1995 and a composite VCLA score of 470;
   *Note: ACT scores taken prior to 1989 are not valid.

2. Passing Praxis I composite score of 532, if earned by December 31, 2013

3. Passing Praxis I composite score of 532, if earned by December 31, 2013

*A new SAT test was released in March 2016. Praxis core substitute scores for the new SAT have not been determined.

For the most current information on the prescribed Virginia Board of Education admission assessment, visit the Teacher Education Services website, http://www.odu.edu/success/academic/teacher-education/val) and review the Teacher Education Handbook.

Clearance Background Check Process

Old Dominion University requires a background clearance check of candidates interested in professional education programs. Professional education programs have several field experiences which are required for continuation and graduation from the program. The clearance background check (http://www.odu.edu/success/academic/teacher-education/placement/background-checks) must be successfully completed prior to a field experience placement. Students will be provided a field experience placement when the background check process is completed with resolution of any issues. Candidates interested in the professional education programs are advised to complete this clearance background check process immediately upon entering a program. This clearance process takes a minimum of eight weeks to complete.

This clearance background check process (http://www.odu.edu/success/academic/teacher-education/placement/background-checks) includes:

- Fingerprinting;
- A social service/child protective service check;
- A review of each candidate's name through the National Sex Offender Registry and/or Virginia State Police: Sex Offender Registry; and
- Candidates are liable for all fees incurred when completing the clearance background check process. (http://www.odu.edu/success/academic/teacher-education/placement/background-checks)

ALL clearance search results must be received and reviewed by Old Dominion University, Teacher Education Services Office to determine
successful completion of the clearance process and approval for placement in a school.

The completed clearance check will be posted in your Leo Online secure page under Test Scores. A score of 1 means that you are cleared for placement.

Teacher Candidate Dispositions
All teacher candidates are expected to demonstrate behaviors that are indicative of the following dispositions characteristic of effective educators. Teacher candidates show a disposition toward and commitment to each of the following:

- Attends functions when required
- Maintains a professional appearance
- Solicits feedback from others
- Adjusts behavior based on professional feedback
- Communicates effectively orally and in writing
- Demonstrates sensitivity to others’ feelings and opinions
- Participates with others in a collaborative manner
- Treats others with respect
- Provides information to all constituents in a professional and timely manner
- Demonstrates a commitment to remain current in knowledge of subject area content
- Demonstrates knowledge about the teaching subject area
- Participates in professional development activities
- Enjoys working with diverse learners
- Demonstrates effective decision-making and problem-solving skills
- Displays excitement about teaching

All candidates will be assessed a minimum of three times throughout their program. Any teacher candidate who is not displaying these dispositions will be subject to the Disposition policy found at www.odu.edu/tes. Demonstrated professional dispositions are expected for continuance in the program.

Early Field Experiences
To participate in the practicum field experience required by the professional education course, a candidate must have:

- Completed clearance search results. All clearance search results must be received and reviewed by Old Dominion University, Teacher Education Services Office to determine successful completion of the clearance background check process (http://www.odu.edu/success/academic/teacher-education/placement/background-checks) and approval for placement.
- Been admitted into an approved teacher education program.
- Continued to meet the GPA required for the individual approved program courses, and the minimum grade requirements in the professional education content courses and their prerequisites.
- A negative tuberculin screening test required prior to the start of any field experiences, to include observation and practice. ODU and school divisions require candidates to have a copy of the negative tuberculin screening test result in their possession at all times when entering a K-12 school building.

A provisionally licensed teacher may participate in an early practicum course if they are currently employed with a school division, have a letter from the Virginia Department of Education listing their course as a needed requirement, and have passing Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment scores (VCLA). The provisionally licensed teacher will have to meet all the requirements of the course as stated in the syllabus.

We are committed to developing candidates skilled in teaching students of all cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds. Varied placements are required. Thus, candidates must complete their early practica in a public or private school that has been accredited by the Virginia Department of Education. Thus, teacher candidates may request specific school divisions. However, these requests are informal and ARE NOT guaranteed. Candidates may not contact school district personnel in order to request or obtain a placement. Candidates may not complete their practicum at a school where a relative is attending or working. Candidates are required to disclose this information on the on-line application.

Teacher Candidate Internship
The teacher internship is the culminating experience in the teacher education programs. This experience is a crucial part of a candidate’s preparation to becoming a professional educator. During the teaching internship experience, candidates observe the operation of schools; analyze the implementation of curricula and instructional strategies; observe the growth and development of students; assist with classroom and extracurricular activities; and ultimately assume responsibility for the academic instruction and management of the classroom. Candidates’ work is evaluated by clinical faculty (cooperating teachers in the schools), in conjunction with University supervisors.

To be eligible to participate in the teacher candidate internship experience, the candidate:

1. Must have completed the clearance background check process (http://www.odu.edu/success/academic/teacher-education/placement/background-checks). Candidates are responsible for all fees incurred. All candidates are required to review the Teacher Education Services website information pertaining to the clearance background check process (http://www.odu.edu/success/academic/teacher-education/placement/background-checks). Once the clearance background check process is completed and the search results are received by the Teacher Education Services Office, a notation will be entered in the candidate’s Leo Online Test Score secured page.
2. Must be admitted into an approved teacher education program.
3. Must submit the Application (http://www.odu.edu/tes/internship) for the Fall student teaching semester by February 1; for the Spring student teaching semester by August 1. Candidates who submit applications after the regular deadline (http://www.odu.edu/tes/internship) may not be guaranteed a placement.
4. Must pass the prescribed Virginia Board of Education Assessment for admission into an approved teacher education Program (see scores above).
5. Must meet the GPA requirements for their individual programs, to include: content knowledge and professional education courses required GPA and minimum grade requirements.
6. Must have ALL course work completed with the required program grades, posted on their transcripts per University schedule.
7. Must have ALL required assessments with passing scores on file in the Teacher Education Services and Advising Office, Education Building - Suite 2345, by the first Monday in August for full internship or by the first Monday in January for spring internship -- no exceptions.
   a. Praxis II passing score report in their content area if one is required by the Virginia Department of Education for licensure.
   b. Passing score report on the Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment (VCLA).
   c. Passing score report on the Reading for Virginia Educators (RVE) Assessment (for PreK-3, PreK-6, and Special Education programs). Candidates who previously passed the VRA do not need to take the RVE.
   d. Passing score reports on the Industrial Certificate Assessment (for Marketing Education program and Technology Education program).
   e. Passing score reports on the OPI Assessment (for Foreign Language programs).
   f. Completion (card) of the First Aid/CPR/AED training.
   g. Completion of the Child Abuse and Neglect certification.

The TES staff is committed to supporting the development of candidates skilled in teaching students of all cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds. Thus, teacher candidates will complete their teaching internships in public
or private schools that have been accredited by the Virginia Department of Education or other State Department of Education. Candidates may request specific school division and schools. These requests are informal and are not guaranteed. Candidates may not contact school division personnel in order to request or obtain a placement. Candidates may not complete their internship at a school where a relative is attending or working. Candidates are required to disclose this information on the student teaching application. If a candidate is placed at a school where a relative is located, the candidate will be removed from the placement and will have to complete the internship the following semester. Candidates may not student teach in the schools where they attended/graduated from high school.

A negative tuberculin screening test required prior to the start of any field experiences, to include observation and practicum. ODU and school divisions require candidates to have a copy of the negative tuberculin screening test result in their possession at all times when entering a K-12 school building.

Candidates are required to provide authorization for the release of any disciplinary action that is contained in their student records.

Additionally, prospective teacher candidate should avail themselves of liability or tort insurance, which can be obtained through membership in the Old Dominion University Student Virginia Education Association (https://orgsync.com/55775/chapter).

**Virginia Department of Education Career Switcher Program**

Virginia Department of Education Career Switcher Program  
College of Continuing Education and Professional Development  
1881 University Drive, Suite 169  
Virginia Beach, VA 23454  
(757) 453-6856  
www.odu.edu/continueyoureducation  
Lisa Temple, Interim Director

**Program Overview**

Old Dominion University has offered the Career Switcher Program on behalf of the Virginia State Department of Education since 1999. The General Assembly requested that the Board of Education develop an alternative pathway to teaching which would positively impact Virginia’s teacher shortages. ODU was approached by the Department of Education to create and run the state’s pilot Career Switcher Program. Since then, our program has trained thousands of Career Switchers who have gone on to be valued educators in school districts statewide.

Varied program formats allow for extremely accelerated training, while accommodating participants who wish to remain employed in their current jobs while pursuing teacher licensure.

Level I preparation in instructional skills and classroom management is specific to content areas and focuses on the “survival skills” of everyday classroom teaching. Opportunities for in-school observation offers participants the opportunity to make contacts in school districts while gaining knowledge about teacher responsibilities and instructional strategies.

Upon completion of Level I preparation, ODU Career Switchers will receive a Career Switcher Provisional License which qualifies them to teach in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The renewable Collegiate Professional Teacher License will be issued upon completion of Level II.

**The Child Study Center**

139 Child Study Center  
757-683-3081  
https://www.odu.edu/partnerships/community/programs/child-care  
Kim Williamson, Director

The Lions Child Study Center, located on Hampton Boulevard on the Old Dominion University campus, serves as a cooperative link among the University, community, and early childhood, special education and speech pathology/audiology programs of the University. In conjunction with its mission of urban outreach, the center provides in-service education, consultation, and clinical services to the local community, agencies, institutions, and school systems. In addition to serving as a visible community resource for referral and information, the center also conducts on-site demonstrations for training and informational exchange, provides parent training, tutorial and assessment services, and develops intervention and service models.

**Programs for Children**

**Mission Statement**

Old Dominion University’s primary purpose in the children’s programs at the Child Development and Child Study Centers is to train teacher candidates and provide a setting for research conducted by the University community. A secondary mission is to provide exemplary child care for the greater Hampton Roads community.

**The Child Development Center**

The Old Dominion University Child Development Center is a full-service, full-time program offering quality care for children ages eight weeks through kindergarten. In each of seven classrooms, a lead teacher is assisted by practicum students from early childhood and other academic areas of study. The lead teacher is a master’s-level professional, trained to be knowledgeable about and attentive to the individual needs of children. Teacher aides also are employed to work in the center and are chosen from students in various disciplines who are trained and interested in working with young children. The Child Development Center provides care for children 49 weeks of the year from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and is housed in two locations: 1520 West 48th Street (the five classes for younger children) and the Child Study Center on 45th Street (the two classes for the oldest children).

**The Preschool/Kindergarten Program**

The Preschool/Kindergarten Program operates three hours a day, five days a week and emphasizes developmentally appropriate practices for children ages 3-5. The overall curriculum includes art, music, science, reading and math readiness, physical education, and computers. Children of kindergarten age are given a specific readiness program in preparation for their entrance into first grade. Lead teachers are assisted by graduate practicum students from early childhood education, as well as students from other academic areas of study, including speech-language pathology, psychology, leisure studies, elementary education and special education.

**Speech and Hearing Clinic**

Lions Child Study Center  
757-683-4117  
https://www.odu.edu/content/odu/partnerships/community/programs/health/speech-hearing.html

The Speech and Hearing Clinic including the Scottish Rite Center provides diagnostic and remedial clinical services to speech-language and hearing impaired children and adults. It operates on a twelve-month, five day per week schedule. Referrals are accepted from medical and educational agencies. Speech-language services are provided by advanced undergraduate and graduate student clinicians in Old Dominion University’s speech-language pathology program who are supervised by ASHA certified clinical faculty members. Audiology services are provided by clinical faculty members holding ASHA certification and by student clinicians who are supervised by these clinical faculty members. Clients typically served by the clinic display hearing, language, voice, fluency (stuttering) and articulation disorders as well as characteristics of social and foreign dialects.