

Georgia College & State University

John H. Lounsbury College of Education Cohort Program Information

First-year, sophomore and transfer students who want to become educators are classified as education track students until they are formally accepted into a cohort. This document provides information about the education programs offered at Georgia College and requirements.

Program Descriptions

Elementary Education Cohort

- Certification for General Classroom teaching, grades Pre-K through 5th.
 - ▶ To learn more about this program, please visit:
<https://www.gcsu.edu/education/teached/elementary-education-bs>

Special Education Cohort

- Certification for Special Education, grades Pre-K through 12th.
 - ▶ To learn more about this program, please visit:
<http://www.gcsu.edu/education/teached/special-education-bs>

Middle Grades Education Cohort

- Certification for General Classroom teaching, grades 4th through 8th.
 - ▶ To learn more about this program, please visit:
<http://www.gcsu.edu/education/teached/middle-grades-education-bs>

NOTE: We currently do not offer a **Secondary Education (9-12)** Undergraduate Program. However, we do have a Secondary Education program at the master's level that you can after you graduate with your bachelor's degree, and this program includes field experience. We recommend earning a degree in the content field that you plan to teach to best prepare you for teaching in that field.

General Cohort Application Requirements

A student must have completed the following prior to submitting a cohort application. Deadlines are posted on the Cohort Application webpage.

- An overall GPA of 2.75 or higher. Please consult with your advisor to discuss options if you do not meet this qualification.
- Admittance to the University (though this does not ensure admittance into the cohort)
- Passed the GACE 360 Educator Ethics Exam
To learn more about the exam and register, please visit <https://gace.ets.org/ethics/about/>.

Additionally, a student must have submitted the following in their cohort application: (in addition to many other parts; refer to the official cohort application page 1 for all parts of the application packet)

- Copy of transcript(s) or DegreeWorks audit that includes grades from the most recent semester and shows in-progress courses for current semester. Include notes of how you will complete legislative requirements and required courses. Print in portrait mode with scale set to 175% (see application guide for more help with this).
- Three (3) Professional References (using the GC Professional Recommendation Form)
 - When selecting individuals to complete your professional recommendation forms, select persons who can address your potential as a future educator. Forms from friends, relatives, or social acquaintances are not appropriate for a professional recommendation. Ask permission from your sources before giving them a form. All recommendations must be in a sealed envelope with the seal signed by the person completing the form. It is the applicant's responsibility to collect the three recommendation forms and include them in your completed application packet. If you are applying to multiple cohorts, please have the recommendation writer copy the form once completed and provide you with copies in individual signed, sealed envelopes so they can be submitted with each packet.
- Completed Applicant Questionnaire
- Record of Experiences with Children or Adolescents

Finally, a student must have completed the following prior to beginning the cohort:

- Satisfied the four (4) Legislative Requirements:
 - US History Legislative Requirement
 - GA History Legislative Requirement
 - US Constitution Legislative Requirement
 - GA Constitution Legislative RequirementTo learn more about these requirements, please visit: <https://gcsu.smartcatalogiq.com/en/2023-2024/undergraduate-catalog/>
- Successfully complete courses in Core and Field of Study. (Courses vary, see “Specific Cohort Requirements” section).
- Earn a C or better in all field of study classes.
- Background check cleared by GAPSC
 - Admission to any cohort is contingent on the PSC issuing a Pre-service Certificate which requires a satisfactory background check. If you have an arrest record of any kind, it is advised that you make an account on gapsc.com and then email paul.phillips@gapsc.com an explanation of your offense with supporting documentation, so that the PSC ethics investigator can research whether or not you will ever be eligible for a Pre-Service certificate and Georgia teaching career.

LAPTOP REQUIREMENT: All undergraduate cohort students are required to have access to laptop computers to use in the classrooms and in field placements. GC does not provide laptops to students.

Requirements for by Program

This document is a resource. Please also review the office catalog requirements [HERE](#).

Elementary Education Cohort

- Prerequisites located in your Core:
 - A “D” or better in BIOL 1100, BIOL 1107, BIOL 1108 or BIOL 1120 (including lab)
 - Prerequisite for ISCI 2001: Life & Earth Science
 - A “D” or better in CHEM 1151, CHEM 1151K, CHEM 1211K, PHYS 1111, PHYS 2211 or ASTR 1000 (including lab)
 - Prerequisite for ISCI 2002: Foundations of Physical Science
 - A “C” or better in your Area A Mathematics (MATH 1001, 1101, 1111, 1112, 1113 or 1261)
 - Prerequisite for MATH 2008: Foundation of Numbers and Operations
 - Prerequisite for ISCI 2002: Foundations of Physical Science
 - Faculty recommends students take MATH 1401: Elementary Statistics or CSCI 1000 (Intro to Computer Science & Applications)
- List of courses in the Elementary Childhood Education Major (Field of Study Courses):
 - EDUC 2110, EDUC 2120 and EDUC 2130:
 - Courses taken in linear fashion; Courses require liability insurance and 10+ hours of school observation
 - ISCI 2001, ISCI 2002 and MATH 2008:
 - Courses are designed to give true mastery of fundamental science and mathematics.

Special Education Cohort

- Prerequisites located in your Core:
 - A “C” or better in your Area A Mathematics (MATH 1001, 1101, 1111, 1112, 1113 or 1261)
 - Prerequisite for MATH 2008: Foundation of Numbers and Operations
- List of courses in the Pre-Special Education Major (Field of Study Courses):
 - EDUC 2110, EDUC 2120 and EDUC 2130:
 - Courses taken in linear fashion; Courses require liability insurance and 10+ hours of school observations
 - MATH 2008:
 - Course is designed to give true mastery of fundamental mathematics.
 - HIST 2111 or HIST 2112:
 - A Communications Development course (select one from the following options)
 - RHET 2210: Small Group Communication
 - ENGL 2208: Intro to Creative Writing
 - ENGL 2140: Intro to Children's Literature
 - MUST 2010: Elem Sign Lang for Therapists

Middle Grades Education Cohort

- Prerequisites located in your Core:
 - Faculty recommends students take MATH 1401: Elementary Statistics or CSCI 1000 (Intro to Computer Science & Applications)
- List of courses in the Pre-Middle Grades Education Major (Field of Study Courses):
 - EDUC 2110, EDUC 2120 and EDUC 2130:
 - Courses taken in linear fashion; Courses require liability insurance and 10+ hours of school observations
 - ENGL 2200:
 - Must have completed ENGL 1102 prior to taking this course. Required for all concentrations.
 - Completion of an additional 6-8 hours of courses in your choice of concentration:
 - Social Studies (HIST 1000:2999; GEOG 1000:2999, POLS 1000:2999; SOCI 1000:2999;)
 - Mathematics (MATH 1000:2999 or MAED 1000:2999)
 - Science (BIOL 1000:2999, CHEM 1000:2999, ENSC 1000:2999, GEOL 1000:2999 or PHYS 1000:2999)

NOTE: It is possible to be CORE complete without having taken these specific courses, but that does not remove the prerequisite requirement – it simply means you will take the required prerequisite courses as electives in addition to the CORE you have already completed.