

EDUCATION, ELEMENTARY (B.S.)

This option provides students with a multidisciplinary understanding of teaching and learning in the elementary grades and the skills and dispositions that will prepare them to teach in today's elementary schools. The program includes theory and practice with children from kindergarten to grade 6 and fulfills requirements for NH Elementary Education (K-6) teacher certification. A liberal arts major is required in addition to the Education, Elementary option, major.

Building on the historical legacy of teacher preparation at Keene State College, the Education program's mission is to prepare competent, reflective classroom teachers and other professional school personnel who utilize effective teaching practices and who create developmentally appropriate educational environments for diverse learners. We integrate liberal arts knowledge and professional preparation for each program we offer and incorporate state and national standards for each specialty area.

Keene State College has been an NCATE accredited institution since 1954; each education program option meets state and national standards and prepares teacher candidates who demonstrate appropriate content knowledge, pedagogical knowledge and skills, ability to impact student learning, and professionalism.

Our Department's conceptual framework states that we strive to prepare professionals who:

- Explore the dynamic nature of teaching and learning
- Demonstrate professional and ethical behaviors that meet high expectations and standards
- Understand the world from multiple perspectives
- Contribute to a just, sustainable, and equitable world

The coursework builds on ecological theories of human development and examines the contexts in which educational systems exist from the perspective of multiple worldviews. Students thereby develop an understanding of themselves as learners and future teachers as they examine the ways in which developmental theories can be helpful in understanding children and curriculum. Field experiences are systematically integrated throughout the program to provide authentic theory-to-practice opportunities for exploring effective pedagogy and assessment strategies.

Admission to Keene State College does not necessarily guarantee admission to Educator Preparation, admission to Student Teaching, or eligibility for certification. Students are assigned an official advisor upon acceptance into the Educator Preparation program. Materials for application to the Educator Preparation program are available in the Educator Preparation and Graduate Studies Office in Rhodes Hall S111.

LIBERAL ARTS MAJOR

For a dual major in Elementary Education: The New Hampshire State Department of Education requires students completing Education majors to also demonstrate depth of knowledge in a content area. Therefore, Education, Elementary option, majors must also fulfill requirements of a liberal arts major; see list below for acceptable majors.

- Anthropology/Sociology
- Art
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Communication
- Computer Science
- Criminal Justice
- Economics
- English
- Environmental Studies
- Film Studies
- History
- Holocaust and Genocide Studies
- Individualized Major
- Journalism
- Mathematics
- Music (audition required)
- Politics
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Spanish
- STEM - for Pre-K Through 6th Grade Educators option
- Theatre and Dance

Students seeking certification to become a K-12 Music Educator or K-12 Physical Educator will complete the Music Education or Physical Education Teacher Certification major. See the appropriate catalog section (Music or Physical Education) for these program requirements.

Transfer Credits

Students who wish to transfer credits into a teacher certification option must apply through the department chair. Transfer students are advised to contact the department chair immediately after acceptance to obtain information about admission to Educator Preparation, PRAXIS testing requirements, and transfer equivalencies.