SECONDARY EDUCATION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Students interested in teaching must select a grade level for which they feel they are most interested, such as elementary or secondary levels. At the secondary or high school level, students decide on a subject they wish to teach. Specialists in subject matter are required at the secondary level. A high school teacher specializes in one “major,” or perhaps two subjects – a “major” and a “minor.”

Secondary certification enables you to teach older students, usually grades 8-12. Certification to teach at the secondary level can be reached by several routes, and programs at universities offering education programs vary widely.

In general, secondary certification requires successful completion of several components:

- Completion of general university requirements for a degree.
- A major in an approved endorsement area, such as math, biology, Spanish, or social studies. A list of typical endorsement areas is provided in this guide. In many cases, an additional “minor” is helpful to your career.
- Preparation for the university’s teacher preparation program, such as Western Washington University’s Master in Teaching program on the EvCC campus.
- Passing the WEST-B. (See www.west.nesinc.com.)
- Student teaching.
- Assessment of professional fitness, criminal history and personal conduct.

Universities may offer certification within the bachelor’s degree program, or as a “fifth year” after earning the Bachelor’s degree, or within a Master’s degree.

STARTING YOUR PREPARATION AT EvCC

Certification to teach at the secondary level is subject-specific and requires an undergraduate major in at least one approved endorsement subject area.

REVIEW THE LIST ON THE REVERSE SIDE TO DETERMINE YOUR INTERESTS AND THEN REFER TO THE CURRICULUM GUIDE ON THE EVCC WEBSITE THAT DESCRIBES PREPARATION FOR THE DISCIPLINE YOU WANT TO TEACH. FOLLOW THAT CURRICULUM GUIDE. YOU WILL NEED TWO ADVISORS, ONE IN EDUCATION AND ONE IN THE DISCIPLINE YOU WANT TO TEACH.

For example, if you want to teach high school English, refer to the English curriculum guide. Taking the courses from that curriculum guide will enable you to pursue a university transfer associate degree in the major area you want to teach at the secondary level. You will transfer as an English student and complete your Bachelor degree. Then you pursue accreditation to teach high school.

In addition you may want to consider education courses that will not interfere with distribution or elective requirements in your major. For example, the courses below can be taken in the humanities and social science distributions without interfering with your major requirements:

- CMST 223 – Public Speaking for Educators
- EDUC& 202 – Introduction to Education

You can also participate in volunteer programs such as Junior Achievement and related activities that involve working as a group leader, tutor, teaching assistant or mentor. In addition, join EvCC’s Teachers of Tomorrow (TOT) Club. It provides students with information regarding a teaching career, elementary or secondary. You might even earn service learning credit, share ideas and plan TOT activities. Contact Dr. Ken White, TOT advisor, at kwhite@everettcc.edu.

Enrollment Services provides general information about application, advising, orientation and registration for new and continuing students. All new students must complete entry advising prior to first quarter registration. Contact: Enrollment Services, 425-388-9219 admissions@everettcc.edu or the Advising Center, Rainier Hall, Room 108, 425-388-9339.

PROGRAM ADVISORS

Initially contact the following advisor who will refer you to an advisor in the area you want to teach.

- Dr. Ken White, Gray Wolf Hall 349, email at kwhite@everettcc.edu

If no answer is received, call the division office 425-388-9387.
MAJORS IN APPROVED ENDORSEMENT AREAS

Authorized endorsements for teachers in the state of Washington are specified in WAC 181-79A-302:

1. English/language arts: Dance, Drama, English, Journalism, Music, Speech & Theatre Arts
2. Science: Biology, Chemistry, Earth science & Physics
4. Specialized subject areas of: Comparative religion, Instructional technology (formerly computer science), Health, Mathematics, Bilingual Education, English-as-a-Second Language & Spanish Teaching
5. Vocational areas of: Agriculture education, Business education, Family and consumer sciences education, Marketing education & Technology education (formerly industrial arts)

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

Listed below are admission and/or graduation requirements for a few universities. Every college and university requires passing scores on all three subtests of the WEST—B prior to submitting an application to the teacher certification program.

Western Washington University
1. Completion of at least 75 graded credits
2. 2.75 or higher GPA overall or last 45 credits
3. ENGL& 101 with a grade of “B” or better
4. Adequate academic major preparation
5. Two letters of recommendation

Central Washington University
1. 3.00 or higher GPA overall or last 45 credits
2. Application, Transcripts and Character/Fitness Form submitted to Certification
3. AA or BA degree; and ENGL&101 and 102 with a “C” or higher and MATH 138
4. Two letters of recommendation

Washington State University
1. 80 hours of recent educational experience with youth within past three years
2. 2.50 or higher GPA overall
3. At least 30 semester hours of course work completed.
4. Complete ENGL& 101 and 102 with a “C” or better
5. At least nine hours of course work completed in an endorsement

University of Washington (including Bothell)
1. Completion of a baccalaureate degree
2. 3.00 or higher GPA overall or last 90 credits
3. ENGL& 101, ENGL& 102, and CMST 223 or 220 with a grade of “C” or better
4. One course each from Literature, U.S. History, Geography, Fine Arts, Life Sciences and Physical Sciences (one lab)
5. Two mathematical courses 100 level and above in areas of Probability and Statistics, Number Theory, Algebra & Geometry
6. 60 hours or more in a classroom that most closely matches the subject and age level which you wish to teach; have the person who supervised you complete an Endorsement Evaluation Form
7. Two letters of recommendation

WEBSITES

Central Washington University: http://www.cwu.edu/~cert/index.html
Eastern Washington University: http://www.ewu.edu/x14379.xml
The Evergreen State College: http://www.evergreen.edu/subsites/studies.htm
University of Washington, Bothell: http://www.uwb.edu/education/
University of Washington, Seattle:
Washington State University:
http://academics.wsu.edu/fields/study.asp?ID=EDUC
Western Washington University:
Washington Educator Skills Test – Basic: www.west.nesinc.com

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