MISSION STATEMENT
for Teacher Education
The Liberally Educated Professional
Wabash College was founded in 1832 as a college to prepare ministers and teachers. For 170 years, the College has striven to prepare educators qualified to participate fully and productively in the accomplishment of the goals of public schooling in a democratic and increasingly complex society.

We believe that the public school’s goals include the education of young people by providing them with a broad general education, one which helps each student to develop the intellectual, social, and moral tools to live happy and productive lives within this society. Specifically, schools strive to educate lifelong learners, those who can solve a range of life’s problems by thinking reasonably, critically, and creatively about issues and events, both personal and abstract. Finally, we are aware that today’s public schools attempt to address with sensitivity the holistic needs of the students as developing human beings who increasingly come from more diverse backgrounds and social contexts.

We believe that it is the mission of our teaching program, as a deeply imbedded part of this liberal arts college, to prepare and develop teachers who can further those particular goals of secondary schooling. We believe that the “liberally educated professional” should:
- remain knowledgeable in their fields and be able to communicate their knowledge to adolescents effectively;
- ponder the complex missions of education and be sensitive to the diverse populations they serve;
- work creatively with students of varied motivational levels within the complex social environment of the classroom;
- bring a fresh perspective to the classroom for the sake of a productive and creative tension in the work place; and thus
- energize students and colleagues for individual improvement and systemic educational change;
- become creative problem-solvers in their disciplines and in their approach to education.

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The Program Option

New Indiana legislation designed to prepare career professionals to teach in elementary, middle, and high schools, has been passed and will be effective as of July 1, 2002.

Called the Transition to Teach program, the legislation requires all colleges and universities in Indiana approved to offer teacher education to make available professional course work and experiences to qualified non-degree seeking candidates who wish to teach in P-12 schools.

Wabash College is able to comply with this legislation without adding new degrees, programs, or courses.

Qualified men with prior baccalaureate degrees may enroll as non-degree candidates and pursue a program of courses and experiences currently approved by the State and provided by Teacher Education faculty. The Teacher Education Committee has established a rigorous set of criteria as prerequisites for admission to the program. It also has defined a course of study (within our existing program) that will allow candidates to be eligible for licensure by the State.

Application Requirements:

Male candidates looking at the Transition to Teach Program for Secondary Licensure must meet the following requirements even to request to go through the application process:

- Bachelor’s degree in a subject field within the licensure framework that Wabash is approved to offer;
- 3.0 undergraduate GPA overall, “B” average minimum in the major if no professional experience; or
- A 2.5 undergraduate GPA or above, along with a good work record for at least the last five years in position in the area of the earned degree.

Admission Requirements:

If you are eligible to apply for our Program in Secondary Education, you must meet the following admission requirements:

- Take and pass at the state cut-off levels, both Praxis I and the appropriate Praxis II NTE tests prior to beginning the program;
- Provide a recent criminal history background clearance as part of the admission process;
- Submit transcripts of undergraduate work or post-degree work in the field in which licensure is sought, along with a letter of intent in which you address the reasons you wish to teach as well the ways the content knowledge has been used since gaining the degree (the letter will also serve as evidence of your writing ability).

The transcripts and letter are submitted to the Director of Teacher Education. A committee composed of the Director, other education faculty members and/or TEC members, and the Department Chair of the discipline in which you wish to license will meet to determine the viability of the coursework, using, in part, the IPSB content standards as guidelines.

The committee will interview each candidate in order to more fully assess oral competency and dispositions for teaching adolescents. As a result of this process, each candidate may be asked to take additional coursework in the content area, or additional testing, or submit other evidence of knowledge, abilities, and dispositions for teaching. You also may be fully admitted, or denied admission.

- Attend an orientation session on the program, its conceptual framework, State standards, and performance assessments required for licensure.

The Course of Study

Each candidate admitted will take the following courses (which have the INTASC and State standards embedded in the content and assessments) and complete the required performance assessments on the standards for the license in his field.

Fall, Semester

Education 101 – non credit, unless the candidate presents coursework in Psychology
Education 302 – 4 hours
Education 201 - 4 hours

Spring, Semester

Education 401-407 – 2 hours (may be in the fall)
Education 420 and 422 - 8 hours

Total Hours = 18 hours, which will be offered as an package along with the tuition.

The candidate must submit an extensive portfolio on INTASC and AYA standards in order to enter student teaching (by December, fall semester), and he must submit the final program portfolio prior to licensure in May.

The candidate will participate and be evaluated in all field experiences attached to the above courses, as well as meet other retention requirements in the program outlined in the Guide for Teacher Education.

The cost for completing the program will be $5000.00 (due in two installments), excluding the cost of any additional content courses the candidate may need. There also is a $100.00 application fee whether or not an individual is admitted to the Wabash College Transition to Teach Program.