

Licensure Plus FAQ Sheet

What is the Licensure Plus program?

The “Licensure Plus” M.Ed. Program is designed for individuals who have earned a bachelor’s degree, who do not have a teaching license, and who are seeking Standard Professional License 1 in either elementary or special education. These are two-step programs. The first step of “Licensure Plus” M.Ed. leads to the Standard Professional 1 (SP1) license. The second step of “Licensure Plus” M.Ed. leads to the M.Ed. and advanced licensure.

Candidates may pursue SP1, Step One, in Elementary Education or Special Education by completing coursework at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Candidates completing the licensure program and obtaining the Standard Professional 1 license may then acquire a master’s degree and advanced licensure. The Masters of Education in Elementary Education, Step Two of the “Licensure Plus” M.Ed. program, requires an additional 21 hours. In Special Education, the Learning Disabilities and Behavioral & Emotional Disabilities M.Ed. Program require an additional 24 hours each.

What are the requirements for admission in to STEP ONE?

- a bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited institution
- a 3.0 cumulative gpa at the undergraduate level
- submission of two letters of recommendation, including letters from the candidate’s employer, an instructor, and/or a personal reference

Your application should be submitted to the Office of Professional & Graduate Studies. If you have any question about the requirements for admission or any of the procedures, email or call Dr. Rebecca Blomgren (blomgren@goborocollege.edu, ext. 262) or Prof. Jane Girardi (girardij@gborocollege.edu, ext. 302) in the Professional and Graduate Studies Office. If they do not know the answer, they will find it for you.

On the transcript for my degree, it lists the grades from the other colleges I attended.

Do I still need transcripts from those institutions?

Yes, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools requires that our Registrar’s office has official transcripts from any college or university from which you received any credit. You will not be fully admitted to the College until you have submitted all your official transcripts.

I already have SP1. Is Licensure Plus for me?

No. If you have SP1 in special education or elementary education and have taught or are teaching, you can apply directly to the M. Ed. Program. If you have a license in another field, and wish to pursue a master’s degree in ELED or Generalist SPED you may add SP1 by taking the appropriate PRAXIS II exam. Then, you will start in the M.Ed. program. Talk with the Director of Teacher Education or one of the advisors in Professional & Graduate Studies about this process. You might also talk with Prof. David Feagins, Coordinator of Alternative Licensure & Clinical Experience (ext. 219).

My gpa is below 3.0. Can I still get into Licensure Plus?

You may begin the SP1 process by taking the required 3000 level courses needed for licensure. If your gpa is 3.00 or above in the identified 3000 level courses you may apply for the Licensure Plus program. For specific information about this process you may contact Dr. Rebecca Blomgren (blomgren@goborocollege.edu, ext. 262) or Prof. Jane Girardi (girardij@gborocollege.edu, ext. 302).

My undergraduate major was not education.**Can I still get into Licensure Plus?**

Yes. You can be accepted with any undergraduate major, as long as you fulfill all the admissions' requirements. The Licensure Plus program is designed specifically for you!

What courses will I take?

You will take courses distributed among professional, specialty and clinical studies. Some of these courses are at the 3000-level; others are 5000-level (graduate) courses.

How many hours are required for the SP1?

36-44 semester hours for Elementary Education

33-41 hours for Generalist Special Education

Do you accept transfer credit?

Yes, 9 graduate hours can be accepted for transfer credit.

Can I get experiential credit or credit for in-service workshops?

This is decided by the Teacher Education Committee on a case-by-case basis. You will need to contact Professor Feagins, Coordinator of Alternative Licensure & Clinical Experience or Dr. Hemphill, Director of Teacher Education.

Some of my previous courses are very old. Will these courses transfer?

The state requires current courses for licensure, so you may have to re-take courses over five years old. The Teacher Education Committee will tell you if your coursework is recent enough. You will need to speak with Professor Feagins, Coordinator of Alternative Licensure & Clinical Experience.

When are the courses offered?

Courses are offered year round in the evening hours (after 3:30pm). Each course is offered either one or two nights a week.

How many courses could I take each semester?

If you are working, your course load should probably not exceed two graduate-level courses. Three graduate-level courses are considered full-time.

Do I have to take Praxis I?

No. If you are fully admitted to the Licensure Plus program, you do not need to take Praxis I. The only exception to this would be if your LEA (employer) requires PRAXIS I. You will need to take Praxis II, however, to exit the Licensure portion and get SP1 licensure.

Do I need to be admitted to the Teacher Education Program?

Yes. This is a separate admission process. The application packet can be picked up from Pam Bennett in the Proctor Hall 208. ***You should begin this process as soon as you are admitted to the Licensure Plus program. During your very FIRST semester in the Licensure Plus program, make sure you speak with the Director of Teacher Education or your advisor about admission to the Teacher Education Program. ***

I am a lateral entry teacher. Do I have to complete an 8-hour internship?

No. Lateral entry teachers complete a 2-hour practicum instead.

What are the exit criteria for the Licensure portion of the Licensure Plus program?

You must have

- a passing score on the Praxis II examination
- a 3.0 cumulative gpa
- no grades of D or F
- only one grade of C in a graduate level course
- an acceptable teaching portfolio
- fulfillment of all requirements for an SP1 licensure.

If you are intending to transition into the “PLUS” part of the program, you should take the GRE or the Miller’s Analogies Test during the clinical practicum. You need that score to be accepted into the M.Ed. program, so sign up NOW. *** Greensboro College code is 5260.

How do I transition into STEP TWO of the Licensure Plus Program?

You must submit an application to the Office of Professional and Graduate Studies with the following supporting materials:

- be fully admitted to the Licensure Plus program
- have a gpa of at least 3.0
- a reference from a faculty member in the Licensure Plus program
- official GRE scores
- proof of employment (2 years’ teaching experience is recommended)
- a copy of your initial license/ proof that you have been recommended for licensure
- proof of admission into the Teacher Education Program

How many hours are in the Plus (M. Ed.) portion?

21 additional hours for the M. Ed. in Elementary Education

24 additional hours for the M. Ed. in both Special Education areas: Learning Disabilities or Emotional and Behavioral Disabilities

Do I have to write a thesis for the M. Ed?

The M.Ed. program require a product of candidate learning that can be either a thesis or a portfolio.

What is the cost?

Graduate courses cost \$275 per credit hour. This per-hour is highly competitive because there are not hidden fees. The student pays a yearly parking fee of \$75.00. If you “shop around,” make sure you ask about fees. Fees at different institutions can add as much as \$600.00 per semester.

Can I get financial aid?

Some financial aid may be available in the form of loans. Check with our Financial Aid Office. The North Carolina Legislation Grant is also available for candidates seeking teacher licensure.

Is there anything I need to do right this minute?

Two things: Sign up to take the GRE (code 5260 for Greensboro College) and begin the process of admission to the Teacher Education Program.