Important Licensure Changes: Fall 2014

Important Changes for Foreign Language Endorsements

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) recently announced a significant change to the requirements for a foreign language endorsement at the primary and middle school levels.

This change became effective as of July 1, 2013 and impacts any individual that has not been issued a Professional Educator License (PEL) by ISBE with a foreign language endorsement. Individuals that have had an evaluation done by a DePaul advisor will need to be re-evaluated in light of the new requirements.

The new/current requirements are as follows:

A) Individuals must have 24 semester hours (36 quarter hours) of coursework in the foreign language including passing the appropriate foreign language content area test, or

B) Individuals that already have a foreign language endorsement and wish to add a second language, it may be added by passing the appropriate foreign language content area test.

The previous requirement of 18 semester hours (and no test) will no longer be honored by DePaul or by ISBE.

*Note that if you intend to earn a middle school level endorsement, DePaul students must also complete SCU 339 or SCG 439 and complete a teacher education program to be eligible for endorsements at the middle school level.

Primary Level Endorsement Grade Ranges:
- If you hold a license endorsed for early childhood education, the primary endorsement grade range is K-3.
- If you hold a license endorsed for elementary education or special (K-12 or PK-21) education, the primary endorsement grade range is K-4.

Middle School Level Endorsement Grade Ranges:
- If you hold a license endorsed for elementary education, special teaching K-12, or special education PK-21, the middle school grade range is grades 5-8.
- If you hold a license endorsed for secondary education, the middle school grade range is grades 6-8.

*Test options are limited, please visit the ILTS website for the full schedule. http://www.il.nesinc.com/IL17_internetreg.asp

edTPA: A New Requirement for All Teacher Education Students Beginning Fall 2015

Beginning Sept 1, 2015 there will be a new requirement for any individual seeking teaching licensure in the State of Illinois.

- This new requirement, the Teacher Performance Assessment (called “edTPA”) will become a requirement mandated by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) for anyone that completes their student teaching in Fall 2015 and beyond. It is an assessment conducted during the student teaching experience that will include video clips of instruction, lesson plans, student work samples, analysis of student learning and reflective commentaries. Students will submit an electronic portfolio to an outside agency for independent evaluation and a fee will be imposed by that agency as part of the assessment. The Department of Teacher Education is still determining the method for assisting students with this requirement and more information will follow. Although edTPA isn’t required for all students until Fall 2015, some programs will begin incorporating this new state requirement into programs to help students prepare.

Please understand that DePaul and the College of Education have no control over policy and regulations set by the Illinois State Board of Education or their implementation or timeline. Individuals must meet requirements in place at the time they apply for the license.