ELEMENTARY EDUCATION, B.EL.ED.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: Harrisburg

Entrance to Major

Admission Requirements

Applicants should be at the fourth-semester level and complete the Entry to Major Requirements listed below with at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA (4.0 scale). The evaluation of prior college work is done on an individual basis by the Office of Enrollment Services at Penn State Harrisburg. Students admitted to the program must have the appropriate clearances required at the time of admission. These may include FBI fingerprint check, Act 151 child abuse history clearance, and Act 34 criminal record check.

Entry to Major Requirements

Entry to the Elementary Education major requires the completion of 45 or more credits in required courses and the state’s minimum cumulative GPA criteria of 3.0. Candidates must complete, with a grade of "C" or better, six (6) credits of college-level mathematics (MATH prefix), three (3) credits of college-level English literature and three (3) credits of college-level English composition. Candidates must meet the Basic Skills requirements established by the Pennsylvania Department of Education that are applicable at the time of application for entrance to major. Candidates who desire to pursue this major should plan their freshman and sophomore years carefully to ensure their successful progress during very structured junior and senior years.

Retention Requirements

Monitoring candidate progress in the elementary education program will occur each semester while the candidate is participating in the elementary education program. Candidates will be evaluated for retention in the program based on:

1. maintaining a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher;
2. performance on any test requirements set out by the Pennsylvania Department of Education in force at the time of application for entrance to major;
3. satisfactory completion of required courses, including the field experience component;
4. adequate writing and speaking skills as demonstrated in various classroom assignments; and
5. a positive rating on the Penn State Harrisburg Professional Dispositions for Teacher Education Programs monitoring form.

Candidates must pass any entrance test requirements set out by the Pennsylvania Department of Education in effect at the time of application for entrance to the major.