

Public Disclosure Information for IUP Teacher Education Program Completers

The provisions of the 1998 Amendments to the Higher Education Act of 1965 require IUP to provide the information to the public about students who complete our teacher education program.

The questions we are expected to answer are marked with a bullet, followed by our IUP answer in red.

- What is the passing rate for IUP students who take the required teacher certification tests in Pennsylvania? What has the rate been for the past three years?

IUP Response: This is the first year that these provisions have been in place. The law stipulates that we must provide information on those persons who completed our teacher certification program during the year immediately preceding August 30, 2000. The legally required assessment in Pennsylvania is the Praxis Test Series published by Educational Testing Service. Readers should keep in mind that the legally required assessment and the minimum score set for passing each test vary from state to state.

Praxis Test Summary of Passing Rates for IUP 1999-2000 Cohort

Test Area	Number Taking the Test	Number Passing	IUP Passing Rate	PA State Passing Rate
Basic Skills				
Communication Skills	470	461	98%	98%
General Knowledge	468	456	97%	97%
Aggregate Basic Skills	471	455	97%	96%
Professional Knowledge				
Principles Learning & Teaching K-6	258	238	92%	90%
Principles Learning & Teaching 7-12	161	151	94%	95%
Aggregate Professional Knowledge	419	389	93%	92%
Academic Content Area				
Elementary Education	178	163	92%	87%
Early Childhood	10	10	100%	98%
English	21	19	90%	92%
Mathematics	19	15	79%	87%
Social Studies	25	22	88%	89%
Music	31	27	87%	89%
Art	12	11	92%	94%
Aggregate Academic Content Areas	336	304	90%	89%
Other Content Areas				
Home Economics Education	13	13	100%	93%
Cooperative Education	12	12	100%	100%
Health and Physical Education	42	42	100%	100%
Safety Ed/Driver Ed	16	16	100%	100%
Aggregate-Other Content Areas	98	97	99%	99%

Content Areas for Special Populations				
Education of Deaf and Hard of Hearing	13	9	69%	86%
Special Education Knowledge Base Core Principles	36	36	100%	92%
Special Education Application of Core Principles	36	36	100%	90%
Speech Language Pathology	14	14	100%	100%
Aggregate for Teaching Special Populations	63	59	94%	88%
Summary Total	493	433	88%	86%

- Do these data reported in the table above include scores for all students or only some of the students?

IUP Response: The information provided includes all programs for which there were 10 or more program completers in the initial year of compliance. Scores for programs with fewer than 10 completers are not reported for the teaching specialty but are included in the aggregate calculations and are also included in the summary total. Information for years beyond the first year of this program will be provided in a timely manner as it becomes available.

- What is the number of students in the program, the average number of hours of supervised practice teaching required for those in the program, and the faculty-student ratio in supervised practice teaching?

IUP Response: Our program includes 2,289 students enrolled in teacher education from September 1, 1999, to August 31, 2000. In our programs, all students participate in no less than 15 weeks or a full semester of full-time student teaching. An IUP faculty member and a cooperating teacher selected by the partner school in which the student teaching is completed supervise each student teacher. The 95 full-time and 15 part-time faculty members supervised our 1999-2000 cadre of 525 student teachers for a ratio of 4.7: 1 faculty per student. At IUP, we do not use generic faculty supervision. A faculty member selected by the department of the academic major supervises each student teacher. IUP student teachers complete 15 weeks of student teaching for a full teaching day of approximately seven clock hours. This is an average of 525 hours of student teaching. This exceeds the requirements of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by three weeks or 105 hours.

- Does the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania approve teacher education programs, and is IUP an approved program?

IUP Response: IUP is an approved program designated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. It has been approved by the state since the founding of IUP's teacher education program in the 1870s.

- Can the Praxis scores be used with validity to rank teacher education institutions on the quality of their programs?

IUP Response: the standards for the achievement of children are closely allied with the standards developed by the national associations that also accredit our programs for teacher education. Mathematics standards, for example, that are used for k-12 learning are closely allied with the standards with the standards we meet in preparing our teachers. This kind of relationship does not exist for the Praxis Tests.

- Is IUP's program approved beyond the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania?

IUP Response: IUP's teacher education program also has the distinction of being nationally accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. IUP is one of only 15 of

the 91 state-approved teacher education programs in Pennsylvania to have the distinction of being nationally accredited.

- **Are there other groups that have accredited or approved IUP's teacher education programs?**

IUP Response: A large number of highly regarded national associations that have rigorous standards for the design and conduct of teacher education programs approve IUP's programs. Included in this group of organizations are: National Science Teachers Association; National Council of Teachers of Mathematics; National Council for Teachers for the Social Studies; National Association for the Education of Young Children; National Council of Teachers of English; Association for Childhood Education International; American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance; International Reading Association; National Association of School Psychologists; and American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. Expert faculty who enjoy membership, endorsement, or certification of the above-named professional associations carefully develops IUP's programs.

- **In what ways do the Praxis Tests and their scores relate to the standards of the national or international associations that accredit IUP's programs?**

IUP Response: There is no clear relationship between the standards of the organizations that accredit our programs and the selection of questions that appear on the Praxis Tests. There is also no clear relationship between the teaching skills of a person and his or her test scores.

- **Does the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have a system to designate teacher education programs as being "low performing" based on the passing rates of its students who take the Praxis Tests?**

IUP Response: IUP's passing rate is well above the Pennsylvania designated annual passing rate, "70 percent or below for a low performing program." Teacher-preparing institutions are expected to maintain passing rates in each of Aggregate Professional Knowledge and Aggregate Content Knowledge above 70 percent.

- **How should the public understand the Praxis Test scores and the quality of teacher education programs? Can programs be faithfully compared on the basis of these scores?**

IUP Response: Teacher education programs vary a great deal in their content coverage from university to university. Our programs are specifically designed to meet the rigorous standards of a number of very well-known and recognized professional organizations of professional educators. These organizations specify in their standards exactly what should be covered in our courses. On the other hand, there is no clear guide on what should be learned or studied to pass the Praxis Tests.

- **Is there a relationship between the new Commonwealth of Pennsylvania standards for the achievement of k-12 children and passing rates of newly educated teachers at IUP?**

IUP Response: The standards for the achievement of children are closely allied with the standards developed by the national associations that also accredit our programs for teacher education. Mathematics standards, for example, that are used for k-12 learning are closely allied with the standards we meet in preparing our teachers. This kind of relationship does not exist for the Praxis Tests.

- **What was the number of persons who completed the teacher education program at IUP from September 1, 1999, through August 31, 2000, and are employed in their fields?**

IUP Response: Annually, IUP conducts a questionnaire study of recent graduates. In the most recent study we received 213 responses. The results are as follows:

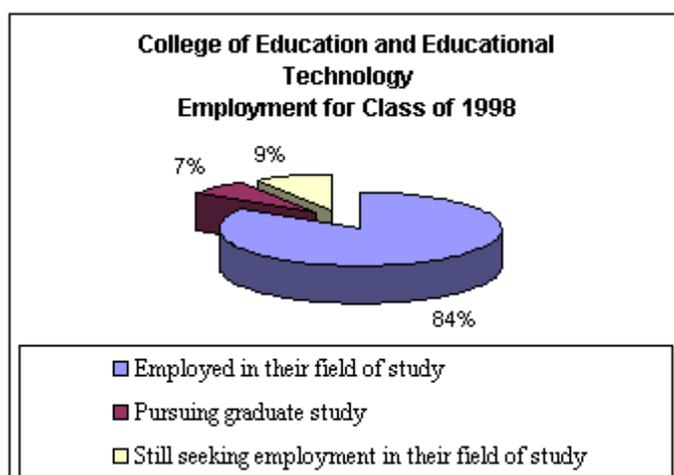
- * **136 or 64 percent of the respondents in the instructional, educational specialist, supervisory or administrative job category in Pennsylvania are currently employed in their field.**
- * **17 or 7 percent of the respondents in the instructional, educational specialist, supervisory, or administrative job**

category outside of Pennsylvania are currently employed in their field.

*** 153 or 72 percent of the respondents in the education field inside and outside of Pennsylvania are currently employed in their field.**

This data was gathered only about six months after graduation at a time when many graduates had not yet determined where they intend to live while they pursued their careers or whether they intend to continue their education at the graduate level prior to entering the teaching profession.

Data gathered on our graduates after a year or more following graduation shows a much higher rate of employment (84 percent) in education and education-related fields. The Office of Career Services at IUP conducts studies of graduates two years after completion. The last class for which a full report is available is the Class of 1998. The results are represented in the chart below:



If you would like a printed copy of this report, please contact The College of Education and Educational Technology at:

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IUP is a member of Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education.

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