Admission Requirements

Applicants must submit the following for admission to the Master of Education or certification program:

- Non-refundable $25.00 application fee
- Completed application form
- One official transcript from each undergraduate and graduate school attended
- Two recommendation forms/letters of reference.
- 1-2 page (250-500 word) personal statement discussing your interest in the education field, future professional plans, and goals
- An undergraduate cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale. Applicants with an undergraduate cumulative GPA less than 3.0 must submit the results of the GRE or MAT prior to being considered for admission.
- Copies of all valid teaching certificates if already a certified teacher.

Program Overview

The hallmark of students who complete a program of studies in the School of Education at Holy Family University is a love of learning, a passion that manifests itself in two ways. The first is a drive for both personal and professional growth, resulting in a master of content to be taught and the pedagogical skills needed to create effective classrooms. The second is an affirmation of the dignity of each human person. Students take the initiative to learn about others and the diverse viewpoints they contribute to society. Their passion for learning is rooted in their deep respect for students, parents, and colleagues; a respect that prompts them to provide the kind of instruction that will maximize student achievement and challenge themselves and others to think deeply about their experiences and their learning. As a consequence, our graduates lead by example and model for their students and colleagues the intellectual and moral rigor that characterizes the very best educators.

Academic Programs

For those seeking teacher certification – Initial Teacher Certification

Initial teacher certification programs are designed for individuals with an undergraduate degree in a field other than education. While earning a Master’s degree, students also meet the state certification requirements.

Early Elementary Education (PreK–Grade 4)
This program certifies students to teach in PreK and early elementary classrooms. Students who complete this program may choose to add on Grade 5 and Grade 6 certification through testing.

Early Elementary Education and Special Education Certifications
This program is designed to provide dual certifications by completing all the requirements for an initial certification in PK-4 along with the certification requirements for Special Education PK-8.
All graduates of Holy Family University programs in Education are expected to:

• Commit to lifelong intellectual growth by demonstrating initiative as a learner and providing evidence of vibrant intellectual life
• Apply University core values and ethical principles
• Collaborate with colleagues in professional education communities
• Demonstrate content knowledge in their field of study and the effective use of technology for learning and teaching
• Meet the standards of the profession and continually improve their performance of professional responsibilities.
• Implement or facilitate constructivist teaching

Our Non-Discrimination Statement can be found at holyfamily.edu/ndstatement or call 267-341-3479.

Academic Programs

For certified teachers seeking to further their expertise or to add on certifications:

Master of Education (General)
This degree is designed for individuals seeking an opportunity to study new areas of education and areas of special interest. This program does not lead to Level I teacher certification.

Master of Education with certification in Special Education
This program is designed for those with prior teaching certification in Pennsylvania seeking an additional certificate in Special Education PK–8 or in Special Education 7–12.

Master of Education in Special Education—Advanced Practice
This program is designed for students who have certification in Special Education and wish to complete a graduate degree that includes advanced courses in Special Education. Students may choose to complete the Autism Endorsement within this program.

Master of Education Degree in Education Leadership
This program is designed for those with a valid teaching certificate and at least three years of professional school experience. Candidates who have a desire to accept the challenges as an educational leader can become certified at either the elementary or secondary level.

Master of Education with PA Reading Specialist certification
For the experienced teacher holding a teaching certificate, this program offers an opportunity to learn new ways to assist students in learning to read, write, and communicate effectively.

Reading Supervisor certification
This program is for those with a master’s degree in reading and five years of professional school experience in that field. This program provides individuals with a strong theoretical base in administration.

Master of Education in TESOL and Literacy **
Graduates of this program are prepared to work with English Language Learners in K-12 schools, adult programs, and post-secondary institutions.

Pennsylvania Add-on Certifications and Endorsements for Certified Teachers:
Special Education PK-8 or 7-12
Principal Certification
Reading Specialist
English as a Second Language (ESL) Program Specialist**
Autism Endorsement**

Non-Certified Teacher Education Programs:
For those individuals who are interested in the field of education but are not seeking to become a certified teacher
Master of Education (General)
Master of Education in TESOL and Literacy
ESL**
Autism Endorsement**

** These programs prepare all individuals to work with special populations of students that have unique needs. Level I or Level II certifications are not required to participate in this program. Program graduates who have PA Level I or Level II certification can receive PA state certification or endorsement at the completion of the program.