

Virginia Wesleyan University is known for excellence in preparing classroom-ready teachers of good character who are ready to advance the cause of education and lifelong learning. Graduates of the Education Program emerge as reflective, engaged teachers committed to cultivate and inspire a love of learning both in their students and within the communities they serve.

THE PROGRAM

Unique features of the Teacher Education Program include a rigorous liberal arts and sciences education, 15 licensure endorsement programs approved by the Virginia Board of Education, early and multiple field experiences in diverse contexts, and career assistance. The program is reviewed periodically by the Virginia Department of Education and approved by the Virginia Board of Education (VBOE). All programs fulfill the curricular requirements detailed in the Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia. Students interested in becoming teachers must formally apply for admission to the education program following their admission to the University and are urged to do so by their sophomore year.

THE ENDORSEMENT AREAS

Students interested in teacher licensure with endorsement in elementary or special education will complete a designated track of the Comprehensive Liberal Studies major along with required professional education courses.

Students interested in licensure in a secondary 6-12 or preK-12 endorsement area will complete the appropriate academic major in one of the thirteen endorsement areas along with the required General Studies courses, then seek admission to the 5th-Year BA/BS to Master of Arts in Education Program prior to completion of their senior year. This new and unique program offers prospective teachers a one-year, internship-based experience to prepare them for teaching in increasingly diverse learning environments.

Students must have a 2.8 GPA overall at the time of application and pass the Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators tests to be admitted. Upon successful completion of their endorsement program, candidates are eligible for licensure in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

THE COURSES

Classes at Virginia Wesleyan University are typically small and interactive. Teacher Education Program courses include, but are not limited to, the study of the foundations of education and special education, human development, literacy, assessment, and appropriate behavioral and pedagogical approaches.

INTERNSHIPS/UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

All education programs offered at VWU prepare successful candidates for licensure with endorsement in their chosen academic discipline through coursework in the university classroom and through fieldwork, formal practicum experiences, and a full semester of student teaching. Through our partnerships and collaborations with surrounding schools and school systems, VWU teacher candidates will complete more than 400+ hours in the field prior to program completion.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

All undergraduate and graduate endorsement programs prepare the successful candidate for licensure with an endorsement in their chosen discipline. Career assistance is provided to all successful candidates through both the Education Department and the Career Development and Internship Program.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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