



# MASTER OF EDUCATION (MED) IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION WITH CERTIFICATION

The M.Ed. in Physical Education is a 36 hour program which requires 15 hours of core courses plus completion of an Area of Concentration. The Masters with Certification Concentration requires a total of 64 hours of undergraduate and graduate courses and internship. Candidates are recommended for certification upon successfully completing 52 credit hours, which can be completed in as little as four semesters. The Masters degree is awarded upon completion of an additional 12 hours of graduate coursework.

The MED in Physical Education with the teaching certification concentration is an innovative program. It is best to begin coursework in the summer. Coursework is 51% online, with class meetings arranged in the summer and on weekends during the academic year. Please consult the department web site for prerequisites to this program.

SUMMER SEMESTER 2010

CLASSES BEGIN JUNE 7, 2010

- ✓ Completed [application](#) for admission
- ✓ Non-refundable \$30.00 application fee (one time only)
- ✓ One official transcript from each college or university attended to complete undergraduate degree
- ✓ Minimum 2.7 GPA
- ✓ GACE Basic Skills or PRAXIS I test scores or proof of exemption. These scores are required for admission to the Teacher Education program (see page 3 for more information).
- ✓ Three strong [letters of recommendation](#) that address your potential as an educator
- ✓ [Endorsement of Support](#) from principal or supervisor if you are employed as a teacher
- ✓ Admission Essay – 500 words, double spaced, addressing the following prompt:  
*Discuss your professional goals as they relate to teaching health and physical education in K-12 school settings.*
- ✓ Satisfactory [Certificate of Immunization](#) (New Students Only)
- ✓ [Academic Honor Form](#)

Additional materials, such as GRE scores, may be requested from applicants in order to strengthen their application. Qualified applicants may be invited to campus for an interview with departmental faculty.

Please send all documents, except the [Certificate of Immunization](#) (see form for instructions), directly to the Graduate School, University of West Georgia, Carrollton, Georgia 30118. Inquiries related to your application status should be directed to the Graduate School by calling 678-839-6419, or via e-mail at [gradsch@westga.edu](mailto:gradsch@westga.edu). Our fax number is 678-839-5949. CHECK YOUR APPLICATION STATUS online at [www.westga.edu/~gradsch](http://www.westga.edu/~gradsch) by clicking on [HOW TO APPLY](#) (item #9).

## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Dept of Health, Physical Education, & Sport Studies  
College of Education  
Financial Aid  
Registrar's Office

678-839-6530  
678-839-6570  
678-839-6421  
678-839-6438

[coe.westga.edu/per/](http://coe.westga.edu/per/)  
[coe.westga.edu/](http://coe.westga.edu/)  
[www.westga.edu/finaid/](http://www.westga.edu/finaid/)  
[www.westga.edu/~registra/](http://www.westga.edu/~registra/)

The Graduate School's web site ([www.westga.edu/~gradsch/](http://www.westga.edu/~gradsch/)) has links to all graduate programs.

**CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS  
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION  
UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA**

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS** – The admission and program requirements that follow are generally applicable to non-degree initial certification programs at the University of West Georgia. However, the results of the evaluation of your application materials and the initial certification program you wish to pursue will determine the exact nature of your program. Should you have additional questions, please contact the department offering the program.

1. Applicants must have received a Bachelors degree from an accredited college or university. The bachelors degree program must reflect a broad general education with at least two courses from these areas: (a) Humanities, (b) Mathematics/Science, and (c) Social Science.
2. Applicants must meet requirements for admission to teacher education (see below).
3. The applicant must present to the program advisor a copy of all transcripts and other documentation required by the program. **Once a transcript analysis has been conducted and the applicant has been deemed eligible for admission to an initial certification program, s/he will receive a program sheet detailing the courses needed to complete course requirements for certification.**
4. Applicants must successfully complete the PRAXIS Series Tests (PRAXIS I and PRAXIS II) and/or Georgia Assessments for the Certification of Educators® (GACE®) (Basic Skills Test and GACE Content Assessment) prior to being recommended for certification. The PRAXIS I or GACE Basic Skills Test score must be submitted prior to acceptance to teacher education. The PRAXIS II or GACE Content Assessment will be required before the University of West Georgia can recommend candidates for certification to the GA Professional Standards Commission.
5. Prior to the end of a student's first semester in a program, the program advisor will develop a Program of Study to be signed by the student and the departmental representative. This Program of Study will be valid for five (5) years unless otherwise indicated.
6. Candidates must complete all courses required in the Program of Study at the University of West Georgia. All internships and practica sites will be located in the University of West Georgia's service area.
7. Courses completed for Professional Learning Unit (PLU) credits may not be accepted for meeting certain program requirements. PLUs will not be accepted to meet teaching field (content) requirements.
8. Candidates must earn a grade of B or better in each graduate course or an overall grade point average of 3.0 on all graduate level work attempted applicable to the field of certification; and earn a grade of C or better in each undergraduate course.
9. A limited number of graduate courses, not to exceed 3 courses or 9 graduate semester hours, used to complete requirements for initial certification may be used toward a Master of Education degree program. For more information, please contact your department for specific requirements.
10. Candidates who were previously enrolled, but have not been in attendance for four semesters must reapply for readmission with the Graduate School and the College of Education and meet Teacher Education requirements in place at the time of readmission.

**RETENTION** – In addition to the specific requirements for admission to teacher education, the candidate must meet the following requirements for retention in teacher education programs.

1. Demonstrate the knowledge, attitudes, and skills appropriate for the various stages of the preparation program.
2. Maintain the minimum GPA required for admission to the program.
3. Candidates must earn a grade of B or better in each graduate course or an overall grade point average of 3.0 on all graduate level work attempted applicable to the field of certification; and earn a grade of C or better in each undergraduate course. Successfully complete each field experience undertaken prior to the next step in the sequence of the program, including exhibiting responsible professional behavior at the field placement site and in interactions with peers, faculty, and students.

**ADMISSION TO TEACHER EDUCATION** – Admission to the teacher education program is a prerequisite to enrollment in professional education courses. Eligibility requirements for admission to teacher education include the following:

1. Meet overall minimum 2.7 grade point average requirement for the graduate certification program in Health & Physical Education.
2. Proficiency in oral communication as demonstrated a grade of C or better in COMM 1101 and/or other means determined by the department (e.g., interviews or tapes of oral communication).
3. Satisfactory completion of the PRAXIS I/GACE Basic Skills Test: The PRAXIS I/GACE Basic Skills Test is required of all candidates admitted to teacher education after July 1, 1997. Candidates admitted to teacher education before July 1, 1997 must post a passing score on the PRAXIS I / GACE Basic Skills Test when applying for an initial Georgia Educator Certificate on or after March 1, 1999.
4. Completion of any other additional requirements specified by individual departments (e.g., departmental interview).

For more information, please see the Teacher Education, Field Experiences, and Internship: Policies and Procedures Handbook at [http://coe.westga.edu/Students/documents/Internship\\_HB\\_Current.pdf](http://coe.westga.edu/Students/documents/Internship_HB_Current.pdf).

# PRAXIS / GACE TESTS

## PRAXIS I / GACE BASIC SKILLS TEST

July 1, 1997, the University of West Georgia began requiring a passing score on the PRAXIS I for admission to teacher education. The GA Professional Standards Commission (GAPSC) began requiring the PRAXIS I as part of college/university recommendations for teacher certification beginning March 1, 1999. Therefore, applicants at the University of West Georgia who were admitted to teacher education before July 1, 1997, but who have not applied for teacher certification prior to March 1, 1999, must pass the PRAXIS I before applying for certification. The PRAXIS I covers the areas of reading, writing, and mathematics. The reading and mathematics assessments are multiple-choice, and the writing assessment contains both essay and multiple-choice components.

The required passing PRAXIS I composite scores are:

CBT READING – 321  
PPST READING – 176

MATH – 322  
PPST MATH – 176

CBT WRITING – 321  
PPST WRITING – 174

**CBT Required Composite Score: 964**

**PPST Required Composite Score: 526**

The Georgia Assessments for the Certification of Educators® (GACE®) replaced the PRAXIS I on September 1, 2006. Students passing all parts of the PRAXIS I prior to September 1, 2006 do not need to take the GACE Basic Skills Test. However, if parts of PRAXIS I were passed and failed (e.g., passed Reading, Writing, but failed Math), the student will need to take all parts of the GACE Basic Skills Test if passing scores were not obtained on the failed parts of the PRAXIS I by March 5, 2007. The PSC will not accept a “mix” of scores from PRAXIS I and GACE. Please see [http://www.gapsc.com/msgc\\_gacetoreplacepraxis.asp](http://www.gapsc.com/msgc_gacetoreplacepraxis.asp) for more information.

- PRAXIS I / GACE Basic Skills Test is required for initial certification
- Individuals who hold or have held a clear renewable certification are not required to take PRAXIS I / GACE Basic Skills Test.
- Candidates holding non-renewable certificates and enrolled in teacher preparation programs at Georgia institutions must post passing scores on the PRAXIS I / GACE Basic Skills Test prior to being recommended for certification by the institution.
- At least two tests of the PRAXIS I (reading, writing, and mathematics) must be passed in order to be recommended for certification. Applicants taking the GACE Basic Skills Test must pass all three parts of the test. See information below on required PRAXIS I/GACE Basic Skills Test composite scores.
- You can find the GACE calendar on the GA PSC web site at: <http://www.gapsc.com/>. Just click on "Educator Assessment" in the menu on the left side of the screen; then "GACE WEBSITE" under "TESTING INFORMATION".
- Passing scores - please see below for more information.
- The GACE Basic Skills is offered as a computer-based test. It costs approximately \$140.00 to take the GACE. More information about cost is available at [http://www.gace.nesinc.com/GA3\\_testfees.asp](http://www.gace.nesinc.com/GA3_testfees.asp).
- See [http://www.gace.nesinc.com/GA3\\_testdates.asp](http://www.gace.nesinc.com/GA3_testdates.asp) for GACE Testing Dates.
- Test Preparation Materials for the GACE can be found at [http://www.gace.nesinc.com/GA3\\_prepare.asp](http://www.gace.nesinc.com/GA3_prepare.asp).

**GACE** - All test results are reported as scaled scores. The scaled score is a combination of the number of scorable questions you answer correctly on the selected-response section of the test and the scores you receive on any constructed-response assignments, converted to a scale from 100 to 300, with a score of 220 representing the passing score. Please note that for assessments composed of more than one test, candidates must pass all tests for that assessment to meet the certification requirements.

- The Praxis I/ GACE Basic Skills Test may be exempted if high enough scores are obtained on the SAT, ACT, or GRE. As of September 24, 2003, **exemptions are:**

**SAT exemptions: 1000 (with no minimum verbal or math scores required)**

The composite score is obtained by adding the verbal and math scores.  
Candidates must take both the verbal and math sections of the test.

**GRE exemptions: 1030 (with no minimum verbal or quantitative scores required)**

The composite score is obtained by adding the verbal and quantitative scores.  
Candidates must take both the verbal and quantitative sections of the test.

**ACT exemptions: 43 (with no minimum English or Math scores required)**

The composite score is obtained by adding the English and Math scores.  
Candidates must take both the verbal and math sections of the test.