

## CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

### **Mission:**

Founded in 1857, Lake Forest College is one of a few national, independent, liberal arts institutions in the state of Illinois. Lake Forest College's small size—approximately 1,600 students—and devotion to the intellectual and personal growth of students allows for close mentorship and careful attention to the development of highly effective and caring teachers.

### **Teacher Preparation Programs:**

Lake Forest College offers programs in Elementary Education; Secondary English, Mathematics, Social Sciences: History; and Natural Sciences: Biology and Chemistry; and K-12 French, Spanish, Visual Art and Music. Students in all of our Elementary, Secondary and K-12 programs are required to complete a second major course of study outside of the Department of Education in addition to a full major in Education. Middle school licensure and endorsements are also offered.

### **Student Characteristics:**

Students at Lake Forest College come to Illinois to study from across the country (representing 44 states) and around the world (representing 76 countries). 39% come from minority backgrounds or are international students and 40 languages are spoken on campus. Most are traditional age, attend full time, and live on campus. The student-faculty ratio on campus is approximately 12 to 1.

### **Admissions Requirements:**

Admission to Teacher Education Program: Candidates must have rising junior or junior standing with a minimum GPA at the College of 2.75; have evidence of passing the Illinois Test of Academic Proficiency or appropriate ACT/SAT score; have adhered to the College's Ethics Policy; have earned a B- or better in EDUC 210 with instructor recommendation for program admission; and have evidence of passing the Illinois State Police background check. Applicants also participate in an interview with program faculty and a transcript review process, provide an on-site writing sample, and complete an initial electronic portfolio assessment.

Admission to Student Teaching: Admission to student teaching requires successful completion of the junior-year pre-student teacher fieldwork practicum with a recommendation for program continuation and evidence of progress toward meeting ISBE and institutional standards through the portfolio process. A grade of "C" or better is required for courses applied to licensure, other than methods courses, which require a "B-" or better. Candidates for student teaching also must have senior standing with a minimum GPA at the College of 2.75, evidence of passing the appropriate Illinois Content Area test, successful completion of methods courses, and recommendation for continuation in the program. All applicants are approved by the Education Advisory Council, a group of faculty members representing various departments on campus, teaching alumni, and local teachers.

### **Accreditation:**

Lake Forest College is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, and the teacher education programs are accredited by the Illinois State Board of Education.

### **Teacher Education Vision:**

Lake Forest College's goal is to prepare teachers who are resourceful and highly motivated, dedicated to responding to students' needs, and who believe passionately in their own power as teachers to make positive contributions to the lives of children and their families. Lake Forest College prepares teachers who use well-developed analytic skills to practice critical reflection and self-assessment, thereby fostering a lifetime of personal and professional growth.

### **Best Practices:**

- Academic advising, career counseling, and placement processes are all conducted by Education Department faculty. In this way, we are able to attend to the developmental and personal needs of the individual student.
- All students participate in a full semester, half-day fieldwork practicum working in a classroom with ethnically, socio-economically and linguistically diverse students in their junior year—a full year prior to student teaching—to solidify their commitment to teaching and to develop the skill base to effectively teach children from various backgrounds.
- All methods courses are supplemented with relevant field experiences.
- All methods courses in the junior and senior years are organized as small seminars in order to address individual developmental needs.
- Multicultural education, technology education, and the education of special needs children are integrated into all courses throughout the preparation program. Methods of instruction for special education and reading methods at all grade levels are also the focus of separate required courses.
- Local teaching alumni support our department faculty by mentoring students, participating in panel presentations, and providing on-site focused observations to supplement courses.
- Fieldwork and student teaching experiences are arranged in quality urban and suburban settings.
- State-of-the-art "smart classrooms" on campus feature the latest educational technology.

### **Notable Features and Accomplishments:**

- Education majors are inducted into Phi Beta Kappa annually.
- In 2001, Lake Forest College and Waukegan District 60 received a \$921,966 grant from the Department of Education to improve the quality of secondary teaching in American history. We maintain strong ties with District 60, placing all junior-year interns in Waukegan.
- In 2003, Lake Forest College joined the Center for Success in High Needs Schools of the Associated College of Illinois to support professional development projects in Waukegan Schools.
- In 2006, Lake Forest College joined the Diversity at the Blackboard Project of the Associated Colleges of Illinois.
- In 2007 Lake Forest College became a participant in the K-16 Initiative, a partnership with Lake Forest and Lake Bluff Schools.
- In 2007, Lake Forest College joined the Math and Science Collaborative of the Associated College of Illinois, intended to improve mathematics and science proficiencies of in-service and pre-service teachers.
- Recent graduates have key leadership positions in their school districts, including early appointments as department chairs and have earned National Board Certification.
- Lake Forest College has a state-of-the art Sports and Recreation Center, located in close proximity to the Education Department. Many education majors are leaders on athletic teams.
- A Lake Forest College graduate received the Outstanding Dissertation Award from The Society for the Study of Curriculum History of AERA.
- A Lake Forest College graduate received the 2012 National History Teacher of the Year award from the Gilder Lehrman Institute for American History.
- In 2014, we won the AILACTE national Models of Excellence Award for our partnership work.

**Program Information for Lake Forest College  
2014-2015**

<b>S.1</b> Total number of students admitted into teacher preparation, all specializations, in academic year 2014-2015	<b>25</b>
<b>S.2</b> Number of candidates in supervised student teaching in academic year 2014-2015	<b>12</b>
<b>S.3</b> Number of faculty members who supervised student teachers:	
➤ <b>S.3A</b> Full-time faculty in professional education	<b>0</b>
➤ <b>S.3B</b> Part-time faculty in professional education but full-time in the institution	<b>0</b>
➤ <b>S.3C</b> Part-time faculty in professional education, not otherwise employed by the institution	<b>3</b>
<b>S.4</b> Total faculty student teaching supervisors	<b>4</b>
<b>S.5</b> Student teacher/faculty ratio (Divide total given in S.2 by the number given in S.4)	<b>4:1</b>
<b>S.6A</b> The average number of student teaching hours per week	<b>40</b>
<b>S.6B</b> The total number of weeks of supervised student teaching required	<b>14</b>
<b>S.7</b> Average total number of hours required	<b>560</b>