

INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS INTERESTED IN TEACHING HIGH SCHOOL CHEMISTRY

Teachers in public and private schools in Washington State are required to hold a teaching certificate. The regular teaching certificate is an official document which attests to minimum prerequisites: (<http://www.k12.wa.us/certification/teacher/teacherinformation.aspx>)

- Age. (18 years old)
- Moral Character & Fitness. A background check which includes obtaining fingerprints and being screened by both the Washington State Patrol and the FBI.
- Degree. A bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college/university
- Basic Skills Test
- Preparation Program. A state-approved teacher preparation program at a regionally accredited college/university which includes content (what to teach) methodology (how to teach), and a student teaching experience (internship, or practicum).

The University of Washington has an accredited teacher preparation program that leads to a Master in Teaching. Prerequisites for entry into the UW Teacher Education Program (TEP) for teaching Secondary School include:

(<http://depts.washington.edu/coe/programs/tep/prerequisites.html>)

1. Bachelor's degree
2. Experience prior to application: A minimum of 60 hours of documented experience (observation and participation) with the age level you wish to teach, in a group instructional setting, within the last 5 years, in the United States. (Classroom experience through EDUC 401, the Pipeline Program may be used.) Document your experience using the form "Evaluation of Educational Experience." Applicants for the elementary special education option need experience working with children with disabilities (see below). Some schools require fingerprinting clearance of volunteers.
3. Washington Educator Skills Test - Basic (WEST-B). Basic skills competency of all teaching candidates. For dates and locations and to register on line for the WEST-B, go to www.west.nesinc.com. Praxis II - Subject Knowledge Competency Test. Assessment for teacher certification in endorsement areas. For dates, locations, and registration information for the Praxis II, go to www.ets.org/praxis.
4. 3.0 grade point average from the most recent 90 graded quarter (60 semester) credits.
5. A writing/composition course (minimum 2.0 grade required).
6. A course on education of an ethnic group in the United States (minimum 2.0 grade required).
7. **Approved Primary Endorsement.** Applicants to the Teacher Education Program should meet with the Chemistry Advisers to have their coursework evaluated for a Chemistry Endorsement.

Courses required for a Primary Endorsement in Chemistry (requires at least 45 credit hours)

General Chemistry (15 cr.)	CHEM 142/152/162
Organic and Biochemistry (14-17 cr.)	CHEM 223/224/241/242 or CHEM 237/238/239/241/242
Inorganic Chemistry (3 cr.)	CHEM 312
Analytical Chemistry (5 cr.)	CHEM 321
Physical Chemistry (3 cr.)	CHEM 452, or 455, or 456
Teaching Experience in Chemistry (3 cr.)	CHEM 498
Physics (8 cr.)	PHYS 114/115 or 121/122
Research Experience (2-3 cr.)	CHEM 399
Additional Coursework (1-2 cr.)	CHEM 197 Science Service Learning or EDC&I 471 Science Education or EDUC 401 Pipeline Project

Other Requirements

- 1) At least five chemistry credits, to include one lecture and one laboratory course approved by the Chemistry Department, must be taken within five years of application to the College of Education
- 2) A minimum grade of 1.7 is required for each chemistry course and an overall cumulative chemistry GPA of 2.50 is required.
- 3) Please note that the requirements listed here do not constitute a bachelor's degree in chemistry.

A Broad Science Endorsement can be obtained by completing the Chemistry Primary Endorsement (which includes 2 courses in Physics) plus:

- 10 credits of Biology coursework and
- 10 credits of Earth & Space Sciences/Geology/Oceanography/Astronomy/ Atmospheric Sciences coursework.

