



BATES EXTENDED STUDENT TEACHING (BEST) PROGRAM:

Post-Baccalaureate Semester for Teacher Education

- **Have you ever thought about teaching at the middle or high school level but can't quite work out the details to complete the Teacher Education minor?**
- **Would you like to add a pre-professional set of knowledge, skills, and dispositions that will open up career opportunities beyond Bates?**

WHAT IS THE BATES EXTENDED STUDENT TEACHING PROGRAM?

- The BEST program is a one-semester post-baccalaureate student teaching program for students wishing to complete the work necessary to apply for teaching certification at the 6-12 grade levels.
- During this semester, the students will complete the state-required semester-long *full time* student teaching experience in a local school, as well as the accompanying college course seminar.
- Students participating in the program complete the following requirements:
EDUC-447: Curriculum And Methods
EDUC-448: Senior Seminar In Teacher Education: Reflection And Engagement
EDUC-461: Student Teaching II (full-time student teaching in a local placement)

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO APPLY?

- Complete the **application form** during your Sophomore or Junior year. In some cases, we will also consider applications from Seniors.
- Ensure that you will complete a **“major plus one”** by graduation. (The “plus one” **cannot** be the Teacher Education minor.)

Options include:

Educational Studies minor

Concentration within Education:

Children, Adolescents, School (C030) or

Learning and Teaching (C084)

Any other “plus one” at Bates

- Prior to graduation, you **MUST take the following courses** in order to qualify for the BEST program:
 - EDUC 231: Perspectives on Education
 - EDUC 362: Basic Issues in Special Education
 - PSYC 240: Developmental Psychology **OR** PSYC 274: Educational Psychology
 - EDUC 460¹: Student Teaching I (Fall of sr year) **OR** EDUC 343: Learning & Teaching
 - A total of 8 courses in your expected teaching subject (English, Math, Social Studies, Life Science, Physical Science, Foreign Language, Art)²

WHAT ELSE DO I NEED TO KNOW?

- **TIMELINE:** You should plan to complete this program in the FALL or WINTER term following your graduation. The WINTER term is preferred, as it is the semester that is traditionally selected to mesh with our regular TE cohort for the full-term student teaching experience, and it will give you the full integration with our program. We will consider applications for the Fall semester, but it may require more independent work.
- **COST:** Students completing this program will pay 1/4 of a semester’s tuition. This cost will grow as tuition grows.

¹ Students completing an Ed Studies minor and who have applied to the BEST program may take EDUC 460 in lieu of EDUC 450 in their senior year.

² See Education advisor for clarity around the expectations for these courses.

- **HOUSING:** Students hoping to live on campus can do so, provided there is space for them in campus housing. Whether a student lives on or off campus, they are responsible for full room and board costs for the semester.
- **FINANCIAL AID:** There will be a limited amount of financial aid available for eligible students. Students participating in the program may also be eligible for [federal workforce Pell grants](#).
- **HEALTH INSURANCE:** Students will be required to carry health insurance that meets the Bates standards. If they do not have adequate coverage, they will be able to purchase the Bates student insurance policy for the semester they are enrolled in this program.
- **PARKING PERMIT:** Students will be able to register to have a student car on campus.
- **CAMPUS SERVICES:** Students will have access to Bates services such as CAPs, library, and gym.
- **COURSE AND GPA CREDIT:** This coursework is at the baccalaureate level and will be noted on the same transcript as a student's other Bates coursework. This addition will change a student's cumulative grade point average, but it will not change the GPA they graduated with.