

The Sterling Teacher Education Program (STEP)

The Sterling Teacher Education Program (STEP) offers a professional studies curriculum for students seeking education licensure to teach K-6, 6-12, and PreK-12 within major subject areas. Endorsements in Adaptive Special Education for K-6 and 6-12 levels are also offered (see page 95). All students seeking teaching licensure must first declare their intentions by completing the Declaration of Candidacy packet. **The Declaration of Candidacy submission date determines program requirements for the candidate.**

Acceptance to STEP

Candidates must complete the following requirements to be accepted to STEP:

- 1. Declare Candidacy**
 - a. Complete the packet—available from STEP's Administrative Assistant
- 2. Demonstrate Pre-Professional Skills**
 - a. Option 1: PPST Test (minimum scores: Writing 172, Reading 173, Math 172)
 - b. Option 2: ACT Test (minimum scores: English 19, Reading 20, Math 18)
- 3. Complete Level Ia Professional Coursework (see below)**
- 4. Maintain a GPA of 2.5 or higher in 24 hours of college credit**

STEP Program Retention Policy

To remain in the Sterling Teacher Education Program (STEP) as an education candidate, a candidate must achieve the following standards:

1. Maintain a 2.5 minimum overall GPA.
2. Maintain a 2.75 minimum GPA in both major and professional coursework.
3. Show progress through field work and learning over time.
4. Perform all duties assigned to the best of one's ability.
5. Show a professional attitude and character in all areas of education, both academic and clinical.
6. Display appropriate IDEAL Attributes as evaluated by both professors and public school teachers.

Should a candidate, in the opinion of Teacher Education Committee (TEC), fail to achieve these standards, an official letter from STEP will be sent, indicating dismissal from the program. Dismissal from the program means a candidate will not:

1. enroll in further education classes,
2. participate in future field work or clinical practices,
3. be a program completer eligible for licensure.

Should the candidate wish to appeal a dismissal decision, he or she may follow the stated appeal process.

Any questions concerning the program should be directed to:

Terri Gaeddert, Director of Teacher Education
Sterling College
125 W. Cooper
Sterling, KS 67579
620-278-4230
tgaeddert@sterling.edu