

Elementary/Middle Level Education

4th through 8th grade

Candidates for certification in Elementary/Middle Level Education must select an emphasis in one of four academic content areas and be a generalist in each of the other three academic content areas.

The academic emphasis requires completion of a minimum of 30 credit hours in one of the following four content areas:

- 1) Mathematics,
- 2) Science,
- 3) English/Language Arts and Reading, or
- 4) Social Studies.

In addition to the one academic emphasis, candidates also are expected to generalize in the remaining three content areas by completing 12 credit hours in each. Students also complete a professional core organized into five areas:

- 1) Early Adolescent and Adolescent Development, Cognition and Learning;
- 2) Subject Matter Pedagogy Content (Grades Four through Eight);
- 3) Assessment;
- 4) Family and Community Partnerships;
- 5) Professionalism.

Content requirements are based on national standards for Elementary/Middle Level Education as well as Pennsylvania's curriculum standards.

NOTE: Beginning June 1, 2014, candidates may elect to “add on” PreK-4 or 4-8 certification by passing the appropriate PECT or PRAXIS II exams. Students interested in this pathway, should consult with their academic advisors.