

SCHOOL OF TEACHER PREPARATION, ADMINISTRATION AND LEADERSHIP (TPAL)

School of Teacher Preparation, Administration, and Leadership

The NMSU College of Health, Education, and Social Transformation's School of Teacher Preparation, Administration, and Leadership (TPAL) is devoted to the preparation of master educators, administrators and leaders for public, private, and governmental institutions. Graduates are prepared to serve as teachers, directors of instruction and curriculum, subject matter specialists, supervisors of student teaching, educational leaders, and university professors. The School of TPAL offers multiple undergraduate and graduate degree programs and pathways within several academic units, including Curriculum and Instruction, Educational Leadership and Administration, Special Education, and the Teacher Education Program.

Vision

We serve the State of New Mexico, borderlands, and global communities with socially responsive scholarship, innovative programs, and collaborative initiatives in education that foster and enhance the capacity of educators and communities to advance equity, democracy, and social justice in education and society.

Mission

As a School within a land-grant and Hispanic Serving Institution, we support and advocate for equitable education for all, especially historically marginalized and multicultural/multilingual communities and students with exceptionalities. We accomplish this through teaching, scholarship, public service, the preparation of teachers and leaders, and collaborations across the disciplines and with our constituents.

TPAL Undergraduate Programs

Freshmen Admission Requirements

First Steps – Admission to NMSU

To earn a license to teach, one must complete a bachelor's degree, so the first step is to apply to the university and declare a major (Undergraduate Admissions (<http://admissions.nmsu.edu/>)). Our undergraduate students are advised by the Center for Academic Advising and Student Support (<https://advising.nmsu.edu/>), and students have several choices of majors. To apply for undergraduate admission and to see complete admissions information, please see NMSU's Undergraduate Admissions (<https://admissions.nmsu.edu/how-to-apply/first-time-freshmen/>) page. First-time freshmen are eligible for regular admission to NMSU if they are a graduate of an accredited high school and meet one of the following Freshman Admission Requirements listed below:

- A cumulative high school GPA of 2.75, or
- ACT composite score of 21 or SAT score of 1060, or
- Ranked in the top 20 percent of their graduating class

Bachelor Programs with Teacher Licensure

The primary function of the undergraduate programs in the School of TPAL is the preparation of licensed teachers for early childhood,

elementary and secondary schools. This process includes a broad general education, professional education, and teaching specializations.

Undergraduate Teaching Majors in the School of TPAL include the Bachelor of Science in Education with majors in:

- Early Childhood Education – Age 3 to 3rd grade (<https://tpal.nmsu.edu/degree-programs/undergraduate-programs/ug-ec.html>)
- Elementary Education – K to 8th grade (<https://tpal.nmsu.edu/degree-programs/undergraduate-programs/ug-eed.html>)
- Secondary Education: 7th to 12th grade (<https://tpal.nmsu.edu/degree-programs/undergraduate-programs/ug-sed.html>) with programs in Science, Language Arts, Math Education, and Social Studies
- Special Education: Pre-K to 12th grade (<https://tpal.nmsu.edu/degree-programs/undergraduate-programs/ug-sped.html>) with elementary specialization or secondary specialization with programs in Science, Language Arts, Math Education, and Social Studies

TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM (TEP)

Undergraduate teaching majors who approach the completion of 60 credits are eligible to apply for the Teacher Education Program (<https://tpal.nmsu.edu/admissions/tep-admission.html>) (TEP). To complete the degree (and become licensed to teach), undergraduate students must be admitted to the competitive TEP (<https://tpal.nmsu.edu/admissions/tep-admission.html>). Applicants who successfully complete the minimum requirements for TEP admission must submit a professional portfolio to be reviewed by the TEP Admission Committee.

The following minimum criteria must be met:

- GPA of 2.75 or higher
- Earn a C- or better in TEP prerequisites (see the packet for a complete list)
- The candidate can apply to TEP as early as their 2nd semester of sophomore year. Candidates may submit their electronic portfolio during the semester in which they are enrolled in the last of the prerequisites.
- Candidates need to have completed at least 60 credits to start TEP coursework but can apply when finishing the last of those 60 credits.
- The candidate must get a current degree check with a current date and signature from Dr. Margo Trevino-Torres in the College of Education Educational Support & Resource Center office in O'Donnell Hall #121 (call for an appointment – 575 646-3404).

The Undergraduate TEP Packet, explaining the components of the portfolio that are necessary to be considered for admission by the TEP (<https://tpal.nmsu.edu/admissions/tep-admission.html>) Admission Committee, does not ensure admittance into any teaching program. Applicants are encouraged to develop a strong student portfolio, achieve the highest GPA possible and present the portfolio in a professional manner. Packets are also available at the Undergraduate Advisement Office of the College of Education, located in O'Donnell Hall, Room 121. Portfolio submission takes place twice a year 3rd Friday of September for the Fall and 3rd Friday of February for the Spring semester. For specific dates each semester, contact the Teacher Education Program office at (575) 646-2669 or the Undergraduate Advisement Office at (575) 646-3404. Applicants should be aware that admission to the TEP is competitive and admission is based upon available faculty resources.

STUDENT TEACHING

Student Teaching is the final semester of the degree, and is a requirement for licensure. Student Teaching (<https://tpal.nmsu.edu/degree-programs/undergraduate-programs/stia.html>) (STEP) portfolios are submitted one semester prior to the actual student teaching semester, and students must be admitted to the TEP in order to apply for student teaching. STEP Portfolio deadlines are 1st Friday in October for fall student teaching and 1st Friday in March for spring student teaching. STEP Portfolios are submitted electronically to the Teacher Education Program (TEP) office. For more information, visit the Student Teaching (<https://tpal.nmsu.edu/degree-programs/undergraduate-programs/stia.html>) website.

Non-Licensure Bachelor Programs

Two additional Bachelor degrees are available to undergraduate students who do not wish to obtain teacher licensure.

Bachelor of Applied Studies (Early Childhood Education Zero-Four Non-Licensure)

There is an identified need for prepared educators to serve young children from birth to four years of age in settings outside of the public school in childcare centers, Head Start, and other agencies. The School of TPAL offers a non-licensure concentration, with the Bachelor of Applied Studies degree for the Zero to Four years old Early Childhood Tract (<https://catalogs.nmsu.edu/nmsu/health-education-social-transformation/tpal/applied-studies-ztf-bas/>). This non-licensure concentration serves private and public childcare, early intervention programs, and Head Start.

The entry requirements and early coursework for the ECED Licensure and ECED Non-Licensure tracts are identical. During the first two years of the ECED programs, students concentrate on their general education requirements while also taking early childhood education classes. This professional education component acquaints students with the psychological, social, cultural, developmental, and cognitive aspects of early childhood. Students also begin to take field experience courses with child study requirements. Once students reach the 60 credit threshold, they can either opt for the Licensure tract by applying to the TEP or continue on with the Non-Licensure coursework.

Applied Studies students must complete all University degree requirements, which include: General Education requirements, Viewing a Wider World requirements, and elective credits to total at least 120 credits with 48 credits in courses numbered 300 or above. All ECED courses must be successfully completed with a grade of C- or better. Developmental coursework will not count towards the degree requirements and/or elective credits, but may be needed in order to take the necessary English and Mathematics coursework.

Bachelor of Science (Educational Leadership)

The Bachelor of Science (BS) in Educational Leadership (<https://ela.nmsu.edu/>) prepares students to work at the bachelor's level in areas such as university or community college career services, admissions, financial aid, and advising. This program develops educational leaders who are passionate about strengthening their leadership to improve student achievement and helps foster positive and sustained relationships with students, institutions, school districts and surrounding communities. This is a social justice-driven program geared to strengthen leadership skills for individuals involved in various educational disciplines. The non-licensure degree will provide graduates with abilities to lead in all facets of higher education. The program offers an innovative, structured approach to leadership in higher educational programs.

Undergraduate Minors

In addition to the Bachelor degrees, the School of TPAL also offers the following three undergraduate minors:

- Educational Leadership – Undergraduate Minor (<https://ela.nmsu.edu/academic-programs/under-grad-minor.html>)
- Early Childhood Education – Undergraduate Minor (<https://catalogs.nmsu.edu/nmsu/health-education-social-transformation/tpal/early-childhood-education-ug-minor/>)
- Secondary Education - Undergraduate Minor (<https://catalogs.nmsu.edu/nmsu/health-education-social-transformation/tpal/secondary-education-ug-minor/>)

School of TPAL Graduate Programs

The School of TPAL offers numerous graduate programs and pathways for post-baccalaureate students. The following programs are listed in the order of Master of Arts degrees, Graduate Certificates, and Doctoral degrees.

Master of Arts Degrees

Master of Arts in Education

- MA/MAT in Education Programs Page (General information)
 - Master of Arts in Education Plus Licensure Concurrently (earn a teaching license in the areas of **Early Childhood, Elementary** or **Secondary Education** while earning a Master of Arts in Education degree)
 - Alternative Licensure
 - Master of Arts in Education (For licensed PK-12 teachers)
 - Master of Arts in Education (Non-Licensure)
 - Concentrations (for Non-Licensure):
 - Bilingual Education (BLED)
 - Early Childhood Education (ECED)
 - Education and Design with Learning Technology (EDLT)
 - Elementary Mathematics & Science Specialist (EMSS)
 - Multicultural Education (MCED)
 - Language, Literature and Culture (LLAC)
 - Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)

Master of Arts in Special Education

- Master of Arts in SPED

Master of Arts in Educational Administration

- Master of Arts (M.A.) PLUS Licensure Program in Educational Administration- PK-12 program
- Master of Arts (M.A.) in Educational Administration – Community College and University Administration program

Master of Arts in Teaching

Concentration:

- Spanish

Graduate Certificates

Alternative Licensure

Graduate Certificate in Education and Design in Learning Technology

Visual Impairment Program

Graduate Certificate in Autism

Graduate Certificate in Autism

PK-12 licensure program

Doctoral Degrees

Doctor of Education

- Educational Administration (with concentration areas):
 - PK-12
 - Higher Education & University / Community College

Doctor of Philosophy

- Curriculum and Instruction (with concentration areas):
 - Bilingual Education
 - Multicultural Education
 - Early Childhood Education
 - Education and Design in Learning Technology
 - Language, Literature and Culture
 - Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)
 - Special Education
- Educational Administration (with concentration areas):
 - PK-12
 - Higher Education & University / Community College