

University of Holy Cross

Certification-Only Program (Alternative Path to Teacher Certification)

University of Holy Cross has certification-only programs in Elementary Education, Grades 1-5 and Secondary Education, Grades 6-12 in the following areas: Biology, Business, English, Family and Consumer Science, French, General Science, Mathematics, Physics, Social Studies, Spanish, and Speech.

Stage One: Application to University of Holy Cross (UHC)

Before registering for courses, candidates must apply to (UHC) and complete all university admissions requirements. University admissions requirements include:

1. Application
2. Application Fee
3. Proof of Immunization Certificate
4. Baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college/university
5. Undergraduate Grade Point Average of 2.5 or higher
6. Official transcripts from every college/university attended
 - a. Note: To be officially admitted to the methods and internship courses in the certification-only program, the Education Department will need another set of official transcripts from all colleges/universities attended to send to the Louisiana Department of Education's Certification Office. When ordering transcripts to be sent to UHC for admissions, you should order a second set of official transcripts to be mailed to yourself. Keep them sealed and official to be included with your application to stage three.

Stage Two: Admission to UHC and Enrollment in EDU Courses

Once all admissions requirements are fulfilled, candidates may begin to enroll in the required EDU courses that do not call for complete admission to the program as described in stage three. Required courses are listed in the UHC Curriculum Guide for Certification-Only Program Alternative Path to Certification Elementary Grades 1-5 and the UHC Curriculum Guide for Certification-Only Program Alternative Path to Certification Secondary Grades 6-12. Candidates must maintain a minimum of a 3.0 GPA in all EDU courses.

Stage Three: Admission to the Methods and Internship Courses

After completing stages one and two, candidates must apply for complete admission to the Certification-Only Program in order to enroll in the methods and internship courses. These

methods and internship courses include EDU 305, EDU 410, EDU 460 B/C/D, and EDU 461 A/B. Candidates must earn a minimum grade of “B” in all methods and internship courses. Complete admission to the Certification-Only Program requires the following:

1. Application (Yellow Packet) which includes:
 - a. Demographic information
 - b. PRAXIS I scores in reading , writing, and mathematics that meet the Louisiana certification requirements
 - i. Exemption from PRAXIS I may be obtained by submitting one of the following: A composite of 22 or higher on the ACT, a 1030 on the verbal and math portions of SAT, or a master’s degree
 - c. PRAXIS II scores on content area tests that meet the Louisiana certification requirements
 - i. Tests for specific areas of certification and the required scores can be found at www.ets.org/praxis. Be sure to look for Louisiana certification requirements.
 - ii. It is highly recommended that you become familiar with ETS’s guidelines and requirements (for example, there are specific time lines for retaking tests and receiving scores.)
 - d. Recommendation forms
 - e. Official transcripts from all colleges/universities attended (Except UHC)
 - i. These official transcripts are IN ADDITION to the ones submitted in stage one for admission to UHC. (See Stage One – 5a for explanation.)

Stage Four: Completion of the Certification-Only Program and Application for Certification

All courses and requirements must be completed within three years. Upon completion of all courses and requirements, the UHC Education Department will apply for certification with the Louisiana Department of Education. Requirements for initial certification are as follows:

1. Completion of courses as listed on the curriculum guides
2. PRAXIS II scores on the PLT (Principles of Learning and Teaching) that meet the Louisiana certification requirements
 - i. Tests for specific areas of certification and the required scores can be found at www.ets.org/praxis. Be sure to look for Louisiana certification requirements.
3. Completion of TaskStream data entry requirements
4. Official transcripts from all colleges/universities attended
 - a. These are submitted in stage three and will be on file in the Education Department thereafter.
5. \$50 Money Order made out to the Louisiana Department of Education – This is required to apply for certification.

6. Certification Packet with all appropriate forms