

# TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM (TEP)

## Information for Teacher Candidates

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### What is the Teacher Education Program (TEP)

The Teacher Education Program, or TEP, at Athens State University promotes professional development of teacher candidates who seek teaching as a career who will become Reflective Practitioners. The program is approved by the Alabama State Department of Education and accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education.

Admission to the TEP is to assure that candidates meet all qualifications for teacher certification. All candidates seeking a degree that leads to certification through a College of Education program, or a College of Arts and Sciences program with a minor in Education, must apply and be accepted into the Teacher Education Program (TEP). Students applying for admission into the TEP Program must meet all the TEP admission requirements.

The Conceptual Framework of the College of Education defines and supports the expectations of exemplary educators produced by Athens State University. Teacher candidates will learn, explore and practice concepts and terms in coursework that will prepare them for the TEP Interview.

### COLLEGE OF EDUCATION CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK GOALS & CONCEPTS

#### Student-Centered Learning

- Culturally Responsive Teaching
- Collaborative Environments
- Developmentally Appropriate Instruction

#### Disciplinary Knowledge

- Content Area Comprehension
- Commitment to Lifelong Learning
- Passion for Chosen Field

#### Professional & Pedagogical Knowledge

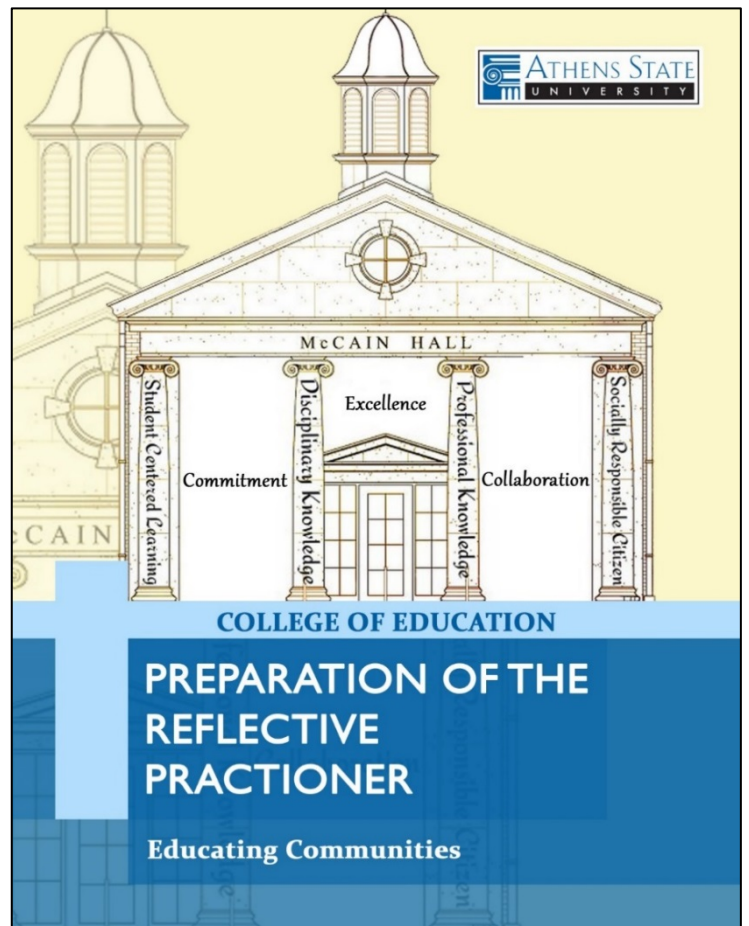
- Inquiry-Based Learning
- Instructional Practices
- Instructional Scaffolding
- Effective Interpersonal Skills

#### Socially Responsible Citizen

- Equity, Compassion, Empathy & Civil Liberties
- Positive Change Advocate

#### Program Goals

- Curriculum & Assessment
- Employment, Education, & Learning



## Admission to TEP

TEP admission requires that **ALL** of the following conditions be met prior to the TEP Interview:

- 1) Clear ABI/FBI fingerprinting background check
- 2) Negative TB test (3 years old or less)
- 3) ALL general education courses completed with a “C” or better
- 4) Achievement and maintenance the following GPAs:
  - At least 2.50 on Overall GPA
  - At least 2.75 in Professional Studies courses GPA
  - At least 2.75 in Teaching Field courses GPA
- 5) Successful completion (grade of C or better) of at least two classes in the Teaching Field and at least two classes in the Professional Education sections of the program prior to the TEP interview.
- 6) Current Transcript(s) on file with Athens State University
- 7) Successful completion (grade of C or better) of ED 301 and ED 302 at Athens State
- 8) Successful completion of at least three days of field experiences
- 9) All Critical Assignments and Field Experience Verification Forms completed at point of TEP application placed in the SL&L (Student Learning & Licensure) Account
- 10) Satisfactory Professional Dispositions
- 11) TEP interview with primary advisor

## The Interview Process

Interviews for TEP admittance will take place during the following two-week intervals each semester:

*Fall Semester: First two weeks in October*

*Spring Semester: First two weeks in April*

*Summer Semester: First two weeks in July*

1. The candidate fulfills all TEP requirements: [http://www.athens.edu/college\\_edu/tep-info.php](http://www.athens.edu/college_edu/tep-info.php)
2. The candidate applies for TEP in Athens State Online at [http://www.athens.edu/college\\_edu/tep-info.php](http://www.athens.edu/college_edu/tep-info.php)
3. The candidate establishes an appointment to meet with the primary advisor for the interview (TEP interviews must be conducted in person)
4. The teacher candidate updates his or her SL&L account and verifies to the interviewer for review.
5. The candidate successfully completes the interview face-to-face with the primary advisor or a faculty panel of interviewers
6. After the successful interview, the primary advisor will complete the TEP Interview Rubric and submit the candidate’s name to be voted on by faculty for admission to TEP
7. After votes have been submitted and counted, the candidate will receive notice of admittance/non-admittance to TEP

## The TEP Interview

The TEP Interview is an official dialogue between the teacher candidate and the interviewer, usually the candidate's advisor, to ascertain that the candidate possesses and can relay the attributes of an effective educator. This dialogue consists of questions and conversation relating to the teaching profession and the candidate's knowledge of such. The coursework completed by the candidate will have prepared the candidate for this interview.

This dialogue will be used to evaluate the candidate's:

- Functioning knowledge of the teaching profession based on Athens State College of Education's Conceptual Framework
- Communication skills
- Commitment to positively representing the Athens State College of Education and the teaching profession

While the dialogue will correspond or align with fulfilling the four pillars, or program goals, of our Conceptual Framework, *Preparation of the Reflective Practitioner*, the candidate will be expected to apply these in functional (not merely rote memorization) of the expectations of the teaching profession.

The four pillars, or program goals, of our Conceptual Framework are...

- ...Student-Centered Learning
- ...Disciplinary Knowledge
- ...Professional and Pedagogical Knowledge
- ...Socially Responsible Citizens

Athens State University uses great discretion when admitting candidates into TEP – it is important that only candidates who will positively reflect on Athens State and the education profession be admitted. Admittance to the TEP is a significant step in the achievement of the teaching degree. The TEP interview provides the teacher candidate the opportunity to exhibit his or her disciplinary knowledge, teaching proficiency, confidence, and attributes such as poise and professionalism expected of an effective practitioner.

The TEP interview provides the teacher candidate the opportunity to clearly demonstrate that he or she is a quality candidate for the teaching profession, with communication abilities of such. Candidates should speak clearly and concisely, to show their knowledge about their field of education and the Athens State College of Education Conceptual Framework.

The candidate's TEP interview will be assessed using the rubric in Appendix A.

Candidates must score at or above the "Acceptable" performance level on all rubric criteria in order to be admitted to TEP.

## **The Student Learning & Licensure (SL&L) Account**

Teacher candidates will maintain an active SL&L account throughout the completion of their program.

At the end of their program, each candidate's account will contain the following items:

-*Completed Critical Assignments*

-*Field Experience Verification Forms*

-*Any other assignments that the teacher candidate wants to add to display outstanding work*

For admission to TEP, the SL&L account should contain the Critical Assignments and Field Experience Verification Forms completed up to the point of applying for TEP.

The minimum requirement is the completed Critical Assignment 1 and verification of the three days of field experiences for ED 302, Foundations of Education.

Students who fail to meet these requirements must reschedule the interview, at the recommendation of the education advisor.

This process is described fully in the video found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yYLLd8h6Qv8>.

## **After Admission to TEP**

After receiving notification of acceptance to TEP, the candidate should check the College of Education website for Student Teaching Application Deadlines (<http://www.athens.edu/education/news/internship-announcements/>).

## Checklist for Admission into the Teacher Education Program (TEP)

Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID: \_\_\_\_\_ Catalog: \_\_\_\_\_

### Plan of Study Review

- Current Transcript(s) on file with Athens State
- ABI/FBI Fingerprinting Background Check completed and clear
- Copy of current negative TB test on file
- Satisfactory Professional Dispositions
- All Gen Ed courses completed with at least a "C"
- ED 301 and ED 302 completed at Athens State with at least a "C"
- At least 2.50 GPA on a 4.0 scale on Overall GPA
- At least 2.75 GPA on a 4.0 scale in Professional Studies Area
- At least 2.75 GPA on a 4.0 scale in Teaching Field Area
- At least two classes completed in Teaching Field Area
- At least two classes completed in Professional Studies Area
- At least three days of field experiences completed
- Critical Assignments completed at point of TEP application in SL&L
- Field Experience Verification Forms completed at point of TEP application

### Interview

Teacher Candidates must score at or above the "Acceptable" performance level on all rubric criteria in order to be admitted to TEP.

	Target	Acceptable	Unacceptable
-Knowledge of the Teaching Profession			
-Knowledge of Conceptual Framework			
-Communication Skills			
-Response to Evaluators' Questions			
-Professional Appearance			
-Voice			
-Body Language			
-Grammar, Word, Usage, Pronunciation			
-Knowledge of the Teaching Profession			

Tentative Internship Semester/Year: \_\_\_\_\_

What needs to be fulfilled in order to intern, after admittance to TEP?

## Appendix A: TEP Interview Rubric

Candidates must score at or above the "Acceptable" performance level on all rubric criteria in order to be admitted to TEP.

<b>Outcomes/Objective</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Acceptable</b>	<b>Unacceptable</b>
<p><b>Overall knowledge of the Teaching Profession and applications of practices of the Athens State College of Education’s Conceptual Framework (Not Memorization of Conceptual Framework)</b>  <i>Exhibit knowledge of how present skills and coursework relate to the teaching profession and evidence of knowledge of specific abilities needed for a career in education.</i>  <i>Exhibit knowledge of the Athens State College of Education’s conceptual framework in discussions about coursework, professional dispositions, teacher preparation, and the teaching profession.</i></p>	<p>Clearly demonstrates and articulates knowledge of the teaching profession and various abilities needed for a career in education are evident and incorporated through-out the interview; can relate how this knowledge and practices are correlated with the Athens State College of Education’s conceptual framework</p>	<p>Some evidence of knowledge of the teaching profession and abilities needed for a career in education are shared at times in the interview                      Some connections of the ASU College of Education’s conceptual framework with coursework, professional dispositions, teacher preparation, and the teaching profession are evident, but the candidate does not clearly articulate</p>	<p>Minimal evidence of knowledge of the teaching profession and abilities needed for a career in education                      The ASU College of Education’s conceptual framework is not understood. The candidate is not familiar with the conceptual framework and cannot articulate the purpose of the conceptual framework.</p>
<p><b>Communication Skills</b>  <i>Display effective verbal and nonverbal skills: clarity of expression, eye contact, body language, voice, grammar, word usage and pronunciation, friendly, poised, and personable.</i></p>	<p>Confident, poised, personable, relates well to the evaluators, answers questions clearly and effectively</p>	<p>Answers most questions well, but displays signs of self-conscious or nervousness in his/her nonverbal communication</p>	<p>Interview is brief because candidate lacks the ability to carry on a conversation or answer questions in detail</p>
<p><b>Response to Evaluators’ Questions</b>  <i>Provide clear and concise answers to evaluators’ interview questions.</i></p>	<p>Responses to questions were appropriate and given without hesitation</p>	<p>Responded adequately to all questions, but without ease or accuracy</p>	<p>Did not answer; Unable to answer</p>
<p><b>Professional Appearance</b>  <i>Attire and grooming suitable for professional job interview.</i></p>	<p>Professional appearance, attire and grooming</p>	<p>Neat appearance, attire and grooming but lacks polish</p>	<p>Non-professional appearance, attire and/or grooming</p>
<p><b>Voice</b>  <i>Speak clearly with appropriate pitch, tempo, and volume.</i></p>	<p>Voice quality is outstanding and pleasing to listen to</p>	<p>Voice quality is good, but could improve</p>	<p>Voice quality is adequate</p>
<p><b>Body Language/ Clothing Choice</b>  <i>Use appropriate body language including gestures, posture, mannerisms, and eye contact.</i></p>	<p>Body language enhances the candidate’s presence</p>	<p>Body language shows minimal amount of nervousness</p>	<p>Body language shows nervousness</p>
<p><b>Grammar/Word Usage/Pronunciation</b>  <i>Use proper grammar and pronunciation.</i></p>	<p>No grammatical or pronunciation errors</p>	<p>Some (1–5) grammatical and pronunciation errors</p>	<p>Extensive (more than 5) grammatical and/or pronunciation errors</p>

**References:**

Athens State University (2014). "Teacher education program-a successful interview".

<http://www.athens.edu/pdfs/coe/TEP-Interview-Student-Information.pdf?x75869>. Accessed January 29, 2018.

Athens State University (2018). "TEP Information". <http://www.athens.edu/education/tep-info/>. Accessed January 29, 2018.