COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
SECONDARY EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

M.ED in Secondary Education: Teaching with Initial Certification Program and Application FAQ

1. **How long will the program take to complete?**
   The program is a one-year, hybrid model with courses both online and in-person. Coursework begins in the summer semester and continues through the fall, winter, and culminates in the spring with student teaching in an urban secondary school within Reading or Allentown school districts. Summer and winter courses are all online.

2. **Is there a GPA required for admission?**
   We expect applicants to have a minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.0.

3. **What is the cost of the program?**
   Please refer to Kutztown University's graduate tuition page. Note that this is a 36-credit graduate program. For more questions regarding program cost, please contact the Student Accounts office at studentaccounts@kutztown.edu.

4. **What does the cohort model mean?**
   A cohort model means that you are enrolled with a group of other teacher candidates, and you will all follow the same coursework schedule. This is an advantage over other programs as you will work together through the program as a learning and teaching community. Please note that there is not an option to take the program outside of the cohort model.

5. **Can you review my transcript before I apply?**
   We do not provide transcript evaluations or advisement prior to applying.

6. **What are the prerequisite course requirements for each content area?**
   An undergraduate major in your content area is preferred but not required. Prior studies must include at least 30 credits in your content area with a minimum content area GPA of 3.0. These courses also need to cover certain topics in that field. The requirements used to evaluate applications for each content area are linked on our webpage under the drop-down menu titled "Content Area Requirements." Applicants can use these forms to get a sense of where they stand with previous coursework.

7. **I have clearances completed from previous jobs—do I need to renew them?**
   A review of up-to-date criminal background checks is a part of the process to complete student teaching and be certified to teach in Pennsylvania. Accepted candidates are required to submit clearances to KU within the first 30 days of the start of the program. Find the list of required clearances and instructions for obtaining them here.

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8. **What are the Praxis II Subject Assessment tests?**

    The Praxis II Subject Assessment tests measure the academic skills and subject-specific content knowledge needed for teaching. A qualifying score in your area of certification is required for admittance into the program. The Praxis II tests are administered by the Educational Testing Service and can be found here.

    Here are the current Subject Assessment tests and score requirements:

Certification Area	Required Test(s)	Score(s)
Biology 7-12	Biology (5236)	154
Chemistry 7-12	Chemistry (5246)	146
Earth & Space Science 7-12	Earth & Space Sciences (5572)	154
English 7-12	English Language Arts (5038)	167
General Science 7-12	General Science (5436)	141
German PK-12	German World Language (5183) Fundamental Subjects (5511)	163 150
Mathematics 7-12	Mathematics (5165)	159
Physics 7-12	Physics (5266)	145
Social Studies 7-12	Social Studies (5081)	157
Spanish 7-12	Spanish World Language (5195) Fundamental Subjects (5511)	168 150

9. **I have not taken the Praxis II Subject Assessment test yet—can I still apply?**

    You may still apply, but a passing score must be obtained prior to the start of your first semester in the program. Accepted students who do not obtain a passing score will be dismissed from the program.

10. **What grades can I teach after program completion?**

    This program leads to certification to teach grades 7-12 in Pennsylvania in your content area. Certification in Spanish or German allows you to teach grades Pre-K-12.

11. **What does it mean that your program emphasizes urban education?**

    We believe in a public education that advocates for learners of all backgrounds. Having experience with urban schools helps our teacher candidates better address the challenges of social inequality in all school contexts. This experience also makes our teacher candidates more marketable in their job search.

If you have further questions, please contact the department of Secondary Education at secondaryeducation@kutztown.edu.

FAQ continued →

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Application FAQ:

Watch a walkthrough for applying here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t4jSPLB_OME

1. **What program do I select on the application?**
   After entering your information on the Applicant Information page, select **"M.Ed. Secondary Education – Teaching, (Content Area), M.Ed."** from the dropdown menu on the Enrollment Information Page. Be sure to select the content area you want to be certified in.

2. **What documents do I need to upload to the application portal?**
   Official transcripts should be uploaded. Proof of a passing Praxis II Content Knowledge exam score can be uploaded as well.

3. **How do I upload documents?**
   After submitting your application, visit the applicant portal. Select the type of item you want to upload, choose the document from your computer, and hit "Upload".

4. **What I have an application fee waiver code—how do I use it?**
   A wavier code can be entered on the Applicant Information page of the application. The field to enter the code is under the section titled "Other". Please note that this code must be entered <u>before</u> reaching the payment page.

For help with the application, please contact the office of Graduate Admissions at graduate@kutztown.edu.

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