

**CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION**

***Mission:***

Monmouth College was founded in 1853 as a liberal arts college with a major purpose of preparing young people to return to their communities to provide leadership and service. Teacher preparation has been a significant commitment of the college and remains so today. Our graduates serve with distinction as teachers in Illinois, the nation, and internationally.

***Teacher Preparation Programs:***

Monmouth College offers 15 teacher certification options at the BA level: Elementary Education (K-9), 10 Secondary (6-12), and 6 Special (K-12) programs. The Middle School endorsement is also available, as well as many second field combinations.

***Student Characteristics:***

Approximately one-third of the students enrolled at Monmouth College are exploring teacher certification. Of the 1343 total enrollment, 93% are Illinois residents, primarily from central downstate and from the metro regions of Chicago and St. Louis. Ten percent are minority status, and two percent are international students.

***Admissions Requirements:***

Admission to Teacher Education Program: Formal admission to the teacher education program is sought in the first year. Candidates must earn at least a 2.333 GPA, a C or higher in their introductory education course and practicum experience, and pass the State Basic Skills test.

Admission to Student Teaching: Formal admission to the student teaching clinical experience typically occurs during the junior year. Candidates must pass the ICTS content area exam; earn at least a 2.75 GPA in their content area, education coursework, and overall coursework; complete a minimum of 100 hours in field experiences with a grade of C or higher in Practicum I, and credit earned in II and III; document responsible and mature behaviors throughout the preparation program; and obtain favorable recommendations from three faculty members.

***Accreditation:***

Monmouth College is accredited by the North Central Association and teacher preparation programs are approved by the Illinois State Board of Education. Programs were last reviewed by ISBE in the spring of 2000. Many departments in the College are recognized by their related professional associations.

***Teacher Education Vision:***

The Monmouth College Teacher Education Program is committed to carrying out the mission of the college emphasizing the discovery of connections, exploration of multiple perspectives, and an appreciation of the creative tension that exists among the principles of democracy, pluralism, equality, and freedom. In addition to the college mission, the Teacher Education Program works to ensure that candidates will understand, believe in, and pursue academic expertise, integrative practices, community partnerships, responsive teaching, and empowering pedagogy.

***Best Practices:***

- \*All candidates begin the professional education program during the first year and develop a personalized academic plan at the point of admittance with a member of the Educational Studies Department.
- \*The professional education program features early and extensive field experiences beginning in the first year that are continued throughout the program, based on the principles of gradualism and sequential knowledge construction, leading to the culminating clinical experience of student teaching.
- \*Instructors in the Educational Studies Department teach at multiple levels of the program, in order to provide every teaching candidate multiple perspectives of teaching and learning.
- \*At the heart of our curriculum is a strong nationally-recognized liberal arts program which integrates various disciplines and knowledge bases.

***Notable Features and Accomplishments:***

- \*One of the defining features of our program is the emphasis placed on developing personal ties between teacher candidates and faculty. Ours is a small college which views the development of close personal and professional relationships with students as essential to having a successful experience. In many respects, we view teacher education as a mentoring process.
- \*Our programs are partially measured by the success of our graduates. Monmouth College teacher candidates are sought out by employers, and the placement rate for first-year teachers is approximately 90%.

<b>Program Information for Monmouth College 2007-2008</b>	
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<b>S.1</b> Total number of students admitted into teacher preparation, all specializations, in academic year 2007-2008	<b>68</b>
<b>S.2</b> Number of candidates in supervised student teaching in academic year 2007-2008	<b>57</b>
<b>S.3</b> Number of faculty members who supervised student teachers:	
➤ <b>S.3A</b> Full-time faculty in professional education	<b>0</b>
➤ <b>S.3B</b> Part-time faculty in professional education but full-time in the institution	<b>0</b>
➤ <b>S.3C</b> Part-time faculty in professional education, not otherwise employed by the institution	<b>9</b>
<b>S.4</b> Total faculty student teaching supervisors	<b>9</b>
<b>S.5</b> Student teacher/faculty ratio (Divide total given in S.2 by the number given in S.4)	<b>6.3:1</b>
<b>S.6A</b> The average number of student teaching hours per week	<b>44</b>
<b>S.6B</b> The total number of weeks of supervised student teaching required	<b>15</b>
<b>S.7</b> Average total number of hours required	<b>661</b>