

The College of New Jersey School of Education

Overview and Mission of The College of New Jersey

The College of New Jersey, founded in 1855 as the New Jersey State Normal School, is primarily an undergraduate and residential college with targeted graduate programs. TCNJ's exceptional students, teacher-scholars, staff, alumni, and board members constitute a diverse community of learners, dedicated to free inquiry and open exchange, to excellence in teaching, creativity, scholarship, and citizenship, and to the transformative power of education in a highly competitive institution.

TCNJ seven schools—Arts & Communication; Business; Humanities & Social Sciences; Education; Science; Nursing, Health, & Exercise Science; and Engineering -- are enriched by an undergraduate honors program and extensive opportunities to study abroad, and award-winning First-Year Experience and freshman orientation programs. TCNJ's retention and graduation rates among the highest in the country.

The Mission of The School of Education

Creating Agents of Change

Consistent with The College of New Jersey's public service mandate, The School of Education is committed to preparing exceptional teachers and clinicians. Underlying our practice is our accepted truth that all individuals can learn and grow, and deserve schools/clinics and teachers/clinicians that respect their individual needs and circumstances while striving to give them the knowledge and skills to be successful in the larger society. Furthermore, we accept as truth the ideal that education is key to addressing the inequalities that exist in society, and that teachers and other school professionals can and should be agents for positive social change.

Through ongoing partnerships with K-12 colleagues, the NJ State Department of Education, and CAEP (Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation), a national accrediting organization, faculty of The School of Education remain dedicated to the core mission of producing high-quality professionals who possess solid content knowledge, demonstrated clinical competence, and a clearly articulated belief that all individuals deserve the highest quality practices in their schools and clinics.

Overview of the School of Education

At the undergraduate level, TCNJ offers over twenty-five approved, accredited programs leading to initial licensure in areas of elementary/early childhood education, seven secondary education content areas, and three P-12 subject areas. Five-year programs are offered in Special Education and Urban Education. At the graduate level, programs lead to both initial instructional licensure and advanced instructional licensure in over ten teaching areas. Several Educational Administration (Leadership) and Educational Services graduate programs are also offered.

Student Population

Undergraduate – Fall 2013 - 6,500 full-time students

Fall 2013 - 1,400 full-time teacher preparation candidates

Graduate - Fall 2013 – 700 students (part-time and full-time)

Fall 2013 – 650 students in programs of professional education (part-time and full-time)

Future Goals

TCNJ programs for educators will continue to evolve in order to provide candidates with current knowledge and skills and to meet the needs of P-12 schools. Future plans include expanded “dual” programs in special education/early childhood education, a specialized middle school “track” for secondary education students, and initiatives in sustainability education. TCNJ will soon admit its first cohort of “Woodrow Wilson Fellows,” candidates in secondary education areas of math and science.