

Institution: Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Submitted by: Bette Bergeron, Dean

The mission of the educator preparation programs at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville's School of Education (SOE) is to prepare "inquirer professionals" who are committed to advancing and applying knowledge, implementing best instructional practices, focusing on the individual needs of learners, and developing effective interpersonal and professional relationships to enhance the success of students and their community. To meet these critical goals, the SOE engages in rigorous and valid external review through state approval and nationally recognized accreditation. Specifically, all of the SOE's educator preparation programs are fully accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and by Specialized Professional Associations, and are approved by the State of Illinois.

The caliber of the educator preparation programs at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE) is reflected in the following elements:

- All candidates in our educator preparation programs meet rigorous requirements for admission and program exit.
- All educator preparation programs at SIUE are closely aligned with recognized state and national standards.
- All educator preparation programs provide candidates with access to a range of current technologies to enhance teaching and learning for the 21st century.
- All candidates engage in early field experiences within diverse settings that prepare them for an intensive full-semester student teaching with certified teachers.
- The SOE routinely follows its graduates through participation in state surveys and, as soon as a state-wide longitudinal data system is developed, welcomes the opportunity to fully utilize all available data to also track graduates' impact on student learning.
- All of the SOE's elementary education candidates graduate with a specific content concentration and are eligible for the state's middle level endorsement. In a state-wide graduate survey, 93% of administrators who employ SOE graduates believe they enter the profession prepared to teach in their content area.
- All of the SOE's programs prepare candidates for the realities of today's classrooms through a balanced approach to literacy instruction that is supported through national research and recognized professional standards. In a state-wide graduate survey, 82% of administrators who supervise SOE graduates find that these novices understand how to use literacy strategies to enhance students' learning.
- SIUE embraces a range of articulation agreements with the state's community colleges, which broadens and enriches the diversity and experiences of candidates who enter the SOE's programs.
- The SOE's faculty members have deep knowledge in their subject area as well as a broad knowledge of best practices in pedagogy, as evidenced by their nationally recognized and peer-reviewed publications and extensive record of scholarly presentations.

The educator preparation programs at SIUE are reflective of current best practices in the field, successfully prepare candidates for 21st century classrooms, and are recognized by educators in the region as effectively preparing novices who embrace the learning needs of each child. The SOE will continue to hold its programs to nationally recognized standards and voluntary accreditation, and welcomes any external review that is grounded in valid, rigorous, and ethical practices.