



St. Johns River State College

*Helping you gain the professional qualification you need for
an exciting new career in education!*

Educator Preparation Institute

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- Program Facilitators:
 - Dr. Myrna Allen, Dean of Teacher Education
 - Mrs. Dawn Boles, Teacher Education Coordinator
 - Mrs. Donna Wyatt, Administrative Assistant, Teacher Education

Educator Preparation Institute

- Overview of EPI Program
 - EPI Courses
 - EPI Entrance Requirements & Application Process
 - EPI Program Cost
- Statement of Eligibility - must have before being admitted to program
- 3 Required Teacher Certification Exams

EPI Program



- Educator Preparation Institutes (EPIs) authorized by Senate Bill 2986, Education Personnel 2004, S. 1004.85, F.S.
- Intended to help meet the need for teachers in Florida by increasing routes to the classroom for mid-career professionals who hold a baccalaureate degree but were not education majors.

EPI Program



- SJR State's EPI Program is designed to provide the knowledge necessary to obtain a Florida Professional Teaching Certificate and prepare you for the Florida Professional Educator Certification Exam.

EPI Programs

- Completion of an EPI Program Satisfies:
 - The Professional Preparation Courses listed on the Statement of Status of Eligibility (SOE)
 - The Demonstration of Professional Education Competence
 - The Practical Teaching Experience requirement

EPI Programs

- Before completing the EPI coursework in EPI 0004, the first class, the EPI participant will be ready to take the Professional Education (PEd) Exam (one of the 3 Florida Teacher Certification Exams).
- Students entering the EPI Program are expected to have completed the General knowledge (GK) Exam and the Subject Area (SAE) Exam before starting the program.

Required EPI Courses

- 21 credit hour program
 - 7 online courses
 - 2 field experiences
- All classes are offered online every semester (with the exception of EPI 0940)
- The entire EPI Program can be completed in 12 months

Required EPI Courses

- EPI 0001 Classroom Management (3 credits)
- EPI 0002 Instructional Strategies (3 credits)
- EPI 0003 Technology (3 credits)
- EPI 0004 The Teaching and Learning Process (3 credits)
- EPI 0010 Foundations of Reading Practices (3 credits)
- EPI 0020 Professional Foundations (2 credits)
- EPI 0940 Field Experience: Prof. Foundations (1 credit)
- EPI 0030 Diversity (2 credits)
- EPI 0945 Field Experience: Diversity (1 credit)



EPI 0001: Classroom Management

3 Institutional Credits

- This course teaches how to maintain a classroom.
- Topics will include: record keeping, classroom management, school safety, Sunshine State Standards into curriculum, development of lesson plans, parent conferences, assessment techniques, implications of FSA and other standardized tests, professional ethics, and school law and the teacher.

EPI 0002: Instructional Strategies

3 Institutional Credits



- This course teaches the participant to become proficient in the application of a variety of instructional strategies based on learning styles, cooperative and collaborative learning, accommodations for exceptional students, and the infusion of technology into lesson plans.

EPI 0003: Technology

3 Institutional Credits



- This course teaches the participant to employ technology as an integral part of the teaching and learning process. Instruction is provided in commonly used software suites and on the Internet. In addition, all students will be required to complete a 15 hour online field experience in a virtual classroom setting.

EPI 0004: Teaching and Learning Process

3 Institutional Credits



- This course teaches a foundation in various learning theories as applied in the instructional process.
- Topics will include learning theories, motivation and persistence, intelligence, exceptionalities, standardized testing, critical thinking, multiple intelligences, and second language acquisition.
 - It is required to take this course in your first semester

EPI 0010: Practices in Reading

3 Institutional Credits



- This course teaches language structure and function and cognition of phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. This instruction is grounded in scientifically-based research. Successful completion of this course will signify completion of Competency II of the Florida Reading Endorsement.

EPI 0020: Professional Foundations

2 Institutional Credits



- This course provides the foundation for becoming a productive member of the teaching profession. The participants will gain understanding of the organization and administration of the accredited public school, the laws governing teachers, the Code of Ethics, and the purpose of schools. This course develops a professional perspective and creates a sense of grounding in the profession of teaching.
- **This course can only be taken in your last semester and an override is required from the Teacher Education Department. In order to receive the override, all FTCE exams must be completed and an “eligible” Statement of Eligibility must be on file.**

EPI 0940: Field Experience Prof. Foundations

1 Institutional Credit



- Participants will complete 35 hours of field experience in a public school setting. This field experience will provide the opportunity to gain insight into the instructional process. This course is not offered in the summer term.
- NOTE: Students enrolling in EPI 0940 must be cleared by a school board background check before the end of the add-drop period. Field exposure in school settings from K-12th grade provides students enrolled in this program with the understanding of the expectations and responsibilities of public school teachers. This course requires thirty-five hours of field experience/observation in a classroom setting designated by the Office of teacher Education in the district of the student's choice within the college's service area. The field experience is completed outside of the scheduled class meeting time.
- **This course can only be taken in your last semester and an override is required from the Teacher Education Department. In order to receive the override, all FTCE exams must be completed and an "eligible" Statement of Eligibility must be on file.**

EPI 0030: Diversity

2 Institutional Credits



- Corequisite: EPI 0945. This course provides participants with an understanding of the variety of backgrounds and cultures that may be found in a typical classroom.

EPI 0945: Field Experience Diversity

1 Institutional Credit



- Corequisite: EPI 0030. Participants will complete a series of experiences designed to give prospective teachers a perspective on the varied backgrounds of students in public, charter, or accredited private schools.
- Independent Study – Create a journal documenting the completion of EPI instructor approved activities.

Application Process

- Requirements:

- ❖ Possess a Baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university with a minimum overall GPA of 2.5
- ❖ Statement of Eligibility (SOE) from the Department of Education
- ❖ Possess a disposition suitable for becoming a teacher

Application Process

- **Submit all the following to the Teacher Education Office:**
 - EPI Application
 - Official College Transcripts - unopened
 - SJR State Application with \$30 application fee
 - Submit application and fee online
 - Fully complete the Florida residency information
 - Copies of required residency items:
 - Driver License (Issue date over one year old!)
 - Voter ID Card or past 2 years of vehicle registrations

Application Process

- Before registering, complete an interview with the Teacher Education Coordinator so the applicant reveals:
 - Possesses the disposition suitable for becoming a teacher
 - Has good moral character
 - Is competent and capable of performing the duties, functions, and responsibilities of an educator
 - Is sensitive to community and cultural considerations
 - Is willing to work with other professionals to ensure student success
 - Has respect for students, parents, and other educators
 - Is able to establish a positive learning environment
 - Has effective verbal and non-verbal communication
 - Has enthusiasm for teaching.

Application Process

- When you attend the interview, please bring with you:
 - Completed EPI Application
 - Completed SJR State Application
 - Copy of Driver License (issue date over one year old)
 - Copy of either a Voter ID Card OR two years of Vehicle Registrations
 - Copies of both pages of the Statement of Eligibility
 - Copies of Exam Score Reports
 - Official Transcripts

EPI Program Cost

- 2014-2015 Tuition: \$124.75/credit hour
- Distance Learning Fee: \$15.00/credit hour
- EPI Program: 21 credit hours
- Total cost of the EPI program (tuition, fees, books) for students paying in-state tuition is approximately \$3,200-\$3,500
 - Please keep in mind that this amount is subject to change due to an increase of tuition, fees, and/or textbooks.

Financial Assistance

- Financial Assistance is available for EPI Students
 - Student Loans are available through the FAFSA
 - Payment Plan: SJR State now offers Nelnet TIPS. Call the Business Office at 386-312-4121 or 386-312-4125 for more information.
- Please contact our Financial Aid Department at 286-312-4040 for additional information

Completing EPI



- To receive a Professional Teaching Certificate through EPI:
 - Complete & pass ALL Florida Teacher Certification Exams (FTCEs) – passing score reports must be on file with our office
 - Complete & pass ALL EPI coursework with an A or B grade
 - Have an “Eligible” SOE on file in our office – VERY IMPORTANT
 - Complete portfolio on file with our office (completed in EPI 0020 – Professional Foundations)
 - Complete and pass all field experiences

Statement of Eligibility

- Apply online with the DOE
 - Print confirmation page when you apply.
- Takes about 8 weeks to receive the actual SOE after they receive your official college transcript.
 - **If your SOE states not eligible, in *most* cases completing the Subject Area Exam will change your SOE to “eligible”**
 - **Must** have official Eligible SOE on file before starting the program
 - Subject Area Exam **MUST** match the Statement of Eligibility!

FTCE

- GENERAL KNOWLEDGE (GK)
 - Take before entering EPI program
 - English, Math, Reading, & Essay (4 parts)
- SUBJECT AREA EXAM (SAE)
 - Take before entering EPI program
- PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION EXAM (PEd)
- **ALL FTCEs COMPLETED BY END OF FIRST TERM!**
 - Register online at www.fl.nesinc.com

FTCE Review Workshops

Optional



- SJR State offers Review Workshops to review the information tested on the Teacher Certification Exams and to give you the confidence you need going into the exam.
- Do not need to be a current student to take available workshops.
- For additional information please contact the Teacher Education Department at 386-312-4242.

Questions?

For more information:



Call: 386-312-4242

E-mail: teachereducation@sjrstate.edu

Fax: 386-312-4101

Mail documents to:

Teacher Education Department:

St. Johns River State College

5001 St. Johns Avenue

Palatka, FL 32177

- **SJR State College Non-Discrimination Statement:** St. Johns River State College does not discriminate against any person in its programs, activities, policies or procedures on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, national origin, marital status, religion, age, gender, sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, disability, or veteran status. All questions or inquiries regarding compliance with laws relating to non-discrimination and all complaints regarding sexual misconduct or discrimination, may be directed to the Title IX Coordinator/Equity Officer, St. Johns River State College, 5001 St. Johns Avenue, Palatka, Florida, 32177; 386-312-4070.
- **SJR State College Declaración de No Discriminación:** St. Johns River State College no discrimina en contra de ninguna persona en sus programas, actividades, políticas o procedimientos por motivo de raza, etnia, color, origen nacional, estado civil, religión, edad, género, sexo, el embarazo, orientación sexual, identidad de género, información genética, discapacidad o estatus de ser veterano/a. Todas las preguntas o consultas sobre el cumplimiento de las leyes relacionadas con la política de no discriminación y las quejas relacionadas con la conducta sexual inapropiada o la discriminación, pueden dirigirse al Coordinador del Título IX / Oficial de Equidad, St. Johns River State College, 5001 St. Johns Avenue, Palatka, Florida, 32177; 386-312-4070.