

INITIAL TEACHER EDUCATION IN THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

Rationale for Selection requirements for applicants

The School of Education offers undergraduate and post graduate programs which are accredited by the Teachers Registration Board of South Australia and provide the graduates with the academic requirements for registration as a teacher in South Australia. Through mutual recognition arrangements, this registration is recognised in most other states/territories of Australia and in New Zealand.

The University of Adelaide program is designed to provide students with deep discipline knowledge, a passion for their discipline and a confidence to engage with the discipline from a variety of perspectives and with creative and sound pedagogy to inspire the secondary school students they will teach.

To achieve this students entering the program must demonstrate that they are capable of successfully engaging with the rigour of higher education academic studies. For school leavers a minimum ATAR of 70 is required for entry to the program. For the graduate entry program graduates first are ranked according to their AQF Level with Level 10 being the highest ranking. Applicants will then be ranked on their performance in the specialist teaching areas. All students must have studies at least one major and a minor and preferably two majors in the teaching areas for which the School of Education offers curriculum and methodology courses.

Students wishing to enter through alternative pathways must demonstrate the equivalent level of academic capacity to ensure that they are able to engage with the rigour of academic study at a higher education institution.

Research into the characteristics of effective teachers indicates that there are also non-academic characteristics of effective teachers. These include motivation to teach, strong interpersonal and communication skills, willingness to learn, resilience, self-efficacy, conscientiousness, and organisational and planning skills.

The University is currently undertaking a pilot project to explore how additional selection criteria relating to non-academic characteristics might be used to select the students who when they graduate will become effective teachers.