Become a Special Ed Teacher
Accelerated program offered in Palos Heights, IL

10 reasons to enroll
Why choose Trinity?

1. **Need for Special Ed Teachers**
   There is a great need in Illinois for special education teachers. According to the National Education Association, over the past 10 years the number of U.S. students enrolled in special education programs has risen 30 percent. Special Education is one of the areas with the greatest number of unfilled positions and the greatest number of teachers needed. *

* Educator Supply and Demand in Illinois 2011 Annual Report

2. **Two Endorsements on Your PEL**
   Through the program, you will earn your Professional Educator License (PEL) with both a special education endorsement as well as either an elementary or secondary education endorsement. This offers you flexibility and marketability when applying for teaching positions.

3. **One Night a Week Courses**
   You will attend class one night a week, from 6-10 PM, on the same night each week. Classes range from 5 to 9 weeks, allowing you to concentrate on one class at a time and to earn your PEL with two endorsements in less than three years.

4. **Affordable Tuition**
   Tuition in Trinity Christian College Adult Studies program includes the cost of rental books. Once you are admitted into the program, the financial aid department will contact you to discuss the financial aid options and process.

5. **Cohorts of Adult Students**
   The Illinois Educator Preparation program curriculum is designed for adults like you. You will learn with a cohort - the same group of about 20 students - throughout the entire program, allowing you to form friendships and develop a support system.
Supportive Faculty

All courses are taught by professors who have experience as a classroom teacher. Your professors are dedicated to assisting you, and if you have questions outside of class, they will be able to help you. Your professors will know your name and will help you reach your goal of becoming a special education teacher.

Student Success

Trinity’s graduation rate is 6% higher than the national average. It is 8% higher than four-year public institutions and 36% higher than four-year for-profit institutions.

Academic Support

Students have access to academic support and tutoring provided by the Office of Learning Services. If you need assistance with writing papers, resources are readily available. A reference librarian will be able to help you when conducting research.

Fulfill Your Dream

Do you have a passion to work with children with special needs? Trinity’s Adult Studies program gives you the methodology courses to teach with excellence. We will prepare you to help students of all ability levels reach their potential.

Faith-Based Perspective

At Trinity, we recognize that “the earth is the Lord’s and everything in it” (Ps 24:1). As a result, everything that we do - from academics to service to community - integrates our faith.
Meet Some of Our Alumni

**ADULT STUDIES EDUCATION GRADS**

**MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

Over the years, the adult studies department has graduated nearly 1,300 students in over 125 cohorts. Adult studies graduates have gone on to be school administrators, classroom teachers, and business leaders. Some graduates of the education program recently shared updates:

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Tim Chandler ’12
**Major:** Teaching Certification (K-12 PE)
**Title:** Athletic director
**School:** St. Laurence High School, Burbank, IL

With past experience as an athletic director and coach, Tim Chandler is a perfect fit for the position he started in July. Chandler credits Bob Wennberg, assistant professor of education, with a big part of his success. Wennberg’s past experience as both a teacher and principal helped guide Chandler and students at the Addison campus and equip them for success. Chandler’s ultimate goal is to be a school administrator and he plans to earn his type 75 certificate in a few years.

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Meridith Rietman ’12
**Major:** Teaching Certification
**Title:** Business technology teacher
**School:** Peotone High School, Peotone, IL

When Meridith Rietman finished her student teaching placement at Peotone High School, she was disappointed she wouldn’t be able to see her colleagues anymore. Her cooperating teacher, fellow Trinity graduate Lori Terry ’06, had a one-person department, so Rietman did not expect to return. However, when Terry accepted an offer at Reed Custer High School, the position at Peotone opened. Asked what advice she would give graduates, Rietman said, “Even if you don’t think there is any chance there’ll be a job opening where you’re doing your student teaching, get to know the principal and ask him/her to observe and give you feedback. You never know what’s going to happen in the future.”

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Kathy Yanke ’10
**Major:** Elementary Education
**Title:** 4th grade teacher
**School:** Longwood Charter School, Chicago, IL

Speaking of her new teaching position, Kathy Yanke said, “This is where God put me.” Her interviewer commented that he was impressed both by Trinity’s program and how well-qualified Yanke was. Longwood Charter School was doing a complete overhaul of the charter, which consists of four schools. Yanke was one of 2,500 applicants for all of the open positions and among the 1,000 teachers who were hired.

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Lindsay Goldschmidt ’11
**Major:** Teaching Certification and ESL/BL Endorsement
**Title:** ELL teacher
**School:** South Middle School, Arlington Heights, IL

Administrators at South Middle School could not find the right fit for their English Language Learner teacher. It was then that Lindsay Goldschmidt applied, interviewed, and was offered the position. She cites the emphasis of being caring in the classroom — which she learned at Trinity — with making the difference. “That idea makes me a better teacher and, I think, helped me get the position. Students need someone they feel comfortable approaching with any issue.” She also added that Dr. Trina Vallone ’99 was one of the wonderful guides who prepared her to communicate with parents, assess students’ abilities, and learn to differentiate. “I feel very prepared, and I’m happy and blessed in this position.”

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Jenifer Fazy ’10
**Major:** Elementary Education
**Title:** Computer teacher
**School:** Wentworth Jr. High, Calumet City, IL

After graduating, Jenifer Fazy earned her master’s in educational technology from DeVry University. She applied for many jobs and received two teaching offers on the same day. In her position at Wentworth, she has not inherited any curriculum from the former teacher, so she has academic freedom to design her course in order to help students achieve national standards. She said that what set her apart from other candidates was her preparation for the interview. She researched the school and the most current state teaching standards. With this preparation, her enthusiasm and motivation were allowed to shine through in her interviews. Now in the classroom, she credits her education at Trinity with equipping her to relate with students.
We look forward to having you join an upcoming cohort!

After you have reviewed the information in this brochure, follow these simple steps to begin the admissions process.

1. Complete the enclosed application.

2. Contact the college(s) that you have previously attended and request your official transcripts.

   No matter how many college courses you have previously completed, whether it is one course or a degree, our transcript evaluation will let you know which of your courses will transfer to Trinity and which courses you still need to take in addition to the Adult Studies program.

   If you have attended college outside of the United States, those transcripts will need to be evaluated by Educational Credential Evaluators Inc. For information, visit their website: www.ece.org

3. Mail transcripts, application and $25 application fee to:
   
   Trinity Christian College/Adult Studies
   6601 W. College Drive
   Palos Heights, IL 60463

We will conduct a transcript evaluation once we receive this information. (Please allow one week for completion of the evaluation.) We will call you to discuss the evaluation and your next step in the admissions process. Also, a copy of your evaluation will be sent to you via email (if available) and postal mail.

We look forward to helping you achieve your goal of earning a Professional Educator License with Special Education endorsement. If you have any questions about the program or transcript evaluation, please call our office at 708-239-4768.
Requirements

To enter the Adult Studies Illinois Educator Preparation program, you must be age 23 or over and have completed at least 45 semester hours of previous college coursework. Course grade must be a “C” or better in order to transfer. Specific courses needed outside of Trinity’s program:

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

- American History *
- Western Civilization
- Intro to Biology (must include lab)
- English Composition
- Intro to Physical Science (must include lab)
- Literature
- Cross-Cultural Elective ***

* Waived with BA-BS for Secondary Ed  ** Met in Education Pre-requisites for Secondary Ed  *** 3 hrs waived with AA-AS-BA-BS; need 6 Hours for Secondary Ed

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION PREREQUISITES

- Life Span Psychology
- Fundamentals of Public Speaking
- Math Concepts for Teacher I
- American Government
- Math Concepts for Teacher II
- World Geography

PRIMARY EDUCATION PREREQUISITES

- Fundamentals of Public Speaking
- Math Concepts for Teacher II
- Life Span Psychology
- Major 36 Hours minimum in chosen subject area (see list for options)

Note: For a Secondary License if you already have your undergraduate degree from an accredited institution in one of the major specializations listed below, you may have already satisfied the major requirements for licensure.

List of subject areas for K-12 Professional Educator License candidates - Art, Music, Physical Education, Spanish.

Course of Study

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>Course Credits</th>
<th>Course Length</th>
<th>Semester</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AEDU 203</td>
<td>Introduction to Education</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
<td>5 weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td>AEDU 209</td>
<td>Technology in Education</td>
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<td>AEDU 303</td>
<td>Educational Psychology</td>
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<td>ATHL 103</td>
<td>Biblical Perspectives</td>
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<td>AEDU 310</td>
<td>Elementary Literacy</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
<td>5 weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td>AEDU 311</td>
<td>Secondary Literacy in the Disciplines</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
<td>5 weeks</td>
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<td>AEDU 202</td>
<td>Fine Arts in Education &amp; Physical Education</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
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<td>AEDU 216</td>
<td>Introduction to Exceptional Children</td>
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<td>AEDU 315</td>
<td>Elementary Methods - Math</td>
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<td>2 weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td>AEDU 316</td>
<td>Elementary Methods - Social Studies</td>
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<td>2 weeks</td>
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<td>AEDU 318</td>
<td>Elementary Methods - Science</td>
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<td>2 weeks</td>
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<td>AEDU 319</td>
<td>Secondary Methods (the student’s specialization</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
<td>6 weeks</td>
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<td></td>
<td>determines the content area)</td>
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<td>AEDU 104</td>
<td>Christian Worldview</td>
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<tr>
<td>AEDU 312</td>
<td>Middle Grades Philosophy and Literacy</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
<td>6 weeks</td>
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<td>ASPED 217</td>
<td>Psychological Diagnosis</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
<td>6 weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASPED 324</td>
<td>Teaching Students with High Incidence Disabilities, Age 3 – Age 22</td>
<td>4 credits</td>
<td>9 weeks</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>ASPED 319</td>
<td>Remediation of Language &amp; Communication Disorders</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
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<td>ASPED 325</td>
<td>Teaching Students with Low Incidence Disabilities, Age 3 – Age 22</td>
<td>4 credits</td>
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<td>AEDU 310</td>
<td>Elementary Literacy</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
<td>5 weeks</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>AEDU 311</td>
<td>Secondary Literacy in the Disciplines</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
<td>5 weeks</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>ASPED 330</td>
<td>Communication &amp; Collaboration</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
<td>5 weeks</td>
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<td>ASPED 420</td>
<td>Critical Issues in Special Education</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
<td>5 weeks</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>AEDU 450</td>
<td>Student Teaching: Elementary</td>
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<td>17 weeks</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>AEDU 455</td>
<td>Student Teaching: Secondary</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASPED 450</td>
<td>Student Teaching: Special Education</td>
<td>5 credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>AEDU 454</td>
<td>Contemporary Issues Seminar (taken during student teaching)</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
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</table>

Program Total: 68 credits

At times, students earning their Elementary Education license will take a different course than those earning a Secondary Education license. Classes are marked as follows:

- Elementary Education Courses
- Secondary Education / K-12 Courses