10 reasons to enroll

Become a Teacher

Palos Heights and Chicago
Affordable Tuition
Trinity’s tuition 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.

Convenient Locations
For your convenience, Trinity offers the Adult Studies Illinois Educator Preparation Program on its main campus in Palos Heights and our off-site location in Chicago’s South Loop. Both locations have free, on-site parking.

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.

Why choose Trinity?

1. Fulfill Your Dream
The Adult Studies program at Trinity Christian College gives you the methodology courses to teach with excellence. Additionally, whether you pursue your elementary, secondary or K-12 Professional Educator License, you will earn your middle grades endorsement.

2. One Night a Week Courses
You will attend class one night a week, from 6-10 PM, on the same night each week. Classes are 5 or 6 weeks in length, allowing you to concentrate on one class at a time and to complete your program in twenty-four months.

3. Affordable Tuition
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4. Convenient Locations
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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 classroom teachers. 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 teacher.

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.

Student Success
Trinity education students are among the most qualified teachers in the field, and our excellent reputation with school districts helps our graduates in securing a teaching position.

A Lifetime of Value
The value of learning, the experiences and the spiritual and personal growth that occur at Trinity can not be measured in dollar amounts. But you should also consider the economic value of a college degree. The average earnings for a bachelor’s degree-holder remain nearly twice as much as those of a worker with only a high school diploma.


Faith-Based Perspective
At Trinity Christian College, 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.

Trinity Christian College - it’s not just a name. It’s an experience and a community of people who will support you every step along the way. You matter to us, and we will help you succeed.
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:

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 Winnberg, assistant professor of education, with a big part of his success. Winnberg’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.

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.”

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.

Lindsey 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 Lindsey 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 said 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.”

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

After graduating, Jennifer 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.
Ready to begin

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. If you have any questions about the program or transcript evaluation, please call our office at 708-239-4768.
To enter the Adult Studies Illinois Educator Preparation program, you must be age 23 or over and have completed at least 65 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 **
- Mathematics
- 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  ** Waived with AA-AS-BA-BS for both  *** 3 hrs waived with AA-AS-BA-BS; need 6 Hours for Secondary Ed

**ELEMENTARY EDUCATION PREREQUISITES**

- Fundamentals of Public Speaking
- Earth Science
- Minor - 18 Hours minimum in chosen subject area (see list for options)
- Life Span Psychology
- Children’s Literature
- Math Concepts for Teacher I
- American Government
- Math Concepts for Teacher II
- World Geography

**SECONDARY EDUCATION PREREQUISITES**

- Fundamentals of Public Speaking
- Life Span Psychology
- Major - 36-59 Hours in chosen subject area (see list for options)
- General Methods
- Biblical Perspectives
- Elementary Literacy
- Secondary Literacy in the Disciplines
- Intro to Exceptional Children
- Elementary Methods - Math
- Elementary Methods - Social Studies
- Elementary Methods - Science
- Secondary Methods
  (student’s specialization determines content area)
- Fine Arts in Education & Physical Education
- Christian Worldview
- Middle Grades Philosophy and Literacy
- Student Teaching
- Contemporary Issues Seminar*

**Course of Study**

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