

PNC Education Academic Standing and Dismissal Policy

The Education Department at Purdue North Central is committed to preparing and supporting candidates on their educational path toward becoming effective teachers. The Academic Standing and Dismissal Policy reflects the Education faculty's belief in the importance of content and professional knowledge in teaching effectiveness. The purpose of the policy is to ensure that PNC candidates are aware of the policy for their academic standing and dismissal, as well as their own academic status. A candidate who fails to meet the PNC Education Department's academic expectations will be advised and assisted to make alternative academic plans in a reasonable amount of time.

Good Academic Standing

A candidate is in good academic standing if he/she achieves the minimum cumulative overall and professional grade point averages (GPAs) as required in the Gate system for each program. Additionally, Secondary Education candidates must maintain the minimum cumulative GPA for the designated content area. All candidates are required to maintain a GPA of 3.0 for professional education (EDCI, EDPS and EDST) courses with no grade lower than a "C" for any single professional education course. The GPA and course grade requirements of the Education programs are presented as follows:

Early Childhood Education Program:

| Gate requirements | Gate 1 (Admission to Professional Education Program – Before Strand 2) | Gate 2 (Admission to Student Teaching – Before Strand 4) | Gate3 (Program Completion – Strand 4) |
|--------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| Cumulative GPA | 2.5 or above | 2.8 or above | 2.8 or above |
| Professional GPA | 2.8 or above | 3.0 or above | 3.0 or above |
| Required Content Courses | C or better | C or better | None |
| Education Courses | C or better | C or better | C or better |

Elementary Education Program:

| Gate requirements | Gate 1 (Admission to Professional Education Program – Before Block I) | Gate 2 (Admission to Student Teaching – Before Block VI) | Gate3 (Program Completion – Block VI) |
|--------------------------|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| Cumulative GPA | 2.5 or above | 2.8 or above | 2.8 or above |
| Professional GPA | 2.8 or above | 3.0 or above | 3.0 or above |
| Required Content Courses | C or better | C or better | None |
| Education Courses | C or better | C or better | C or better |

Secondary Education Program:

| Gate requirements | Gate 1 (Admission to Professional Education Program – Before Block I) | Gate 2 (Admission to Student Teaching – Before Block VI) | Gate3 (Program Completion – Block VI) |
|-------------------|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| Cumulative GPA | 2.5 or above | 2.5 or above | 2.5 or above |
| Professional GPA | 2.8 or above | 3.0 or above | 3.0 or above |
| Content GPA | 2.5 or above | 2.5 or above | 2.5 or above |
| Education Courses | C or better | C or better | C or better |

The grade point average (GPA) is calculated by dividing the candidate's quality points (the product of the number of credits attempted per course and the weight of the grade earned in each course) by the candidate's quality hours (the total number of credits a candidate attempted in letter-graded courses at the 100 level or above). The cumulative GPA excludes credits transferred from other institutions.

Academic Warning and Probation

A candidate will be placed on Academic Probation if the candidate fails to:

1. Earn satisfactory grades for Education and content required courses;
2. Make satisfactory progress, including to maintain academic standing and complete the program in a timely fashion;

Candidates placed on Academic Probation will receive an Academic Warning letter from the Education Academic Advisor informing them of their status with a copy sent to the Department Chair. The Academic Advisor will encourage candidates to visit PNC's Student Success Center for academic support services. The Student Success Center offers tutoring services, academic and study skills development, and academic guidance through seminars, workshops, individual appointments, and group study sessions.

Candidates who are in the academic probation status are not eligible to enroll in any new Block/Strand courses. They will have an opportunity to raise their GPA through enrolling in additional classes and/or re-taking courses they did not complete successfully in the following semester. All Education majors have two opportunities to enroll in and pass required EDCI, EDPS, and EDST courses with a minimum grade of C. Withdrawal from a course (W or WF) constitutes one of the two opportunities. Courses repeated to improve a grade should be taken at the PNC campus or with approval at another university.

Academic Dismissal

A candidate will be dismissed from the Education program if he/she is not in good academic standing, and is placed on Academic Probation for any two consecutive semesters or a total of three semesters.

The Department Chair will send the candidate a dismissal letter upon the posting of final grades. A candidate who receives an Academic Dismissal letter may appeal this decision by following the appeal process presented below. The candidate must appeal his/her academic dismissal in order to be reinstated at the Education program. The appeal application and all supporting documents must be submitted by the deadline date prescribed in the Academic Dismissal letter. Documentation of the dismissal and approval of reinstatement will be a part of the academic record.

It should be noted that many Education course credit hours can be transferred to the Liberal Studies program. The candidate should contact the academic advisor for Liberal Studies for assistance in exploring the possibilities to complete the degree requirements for Liberal Studies.

Appeals Process

The academic dismissal appeals process will be coordinated by the Education Executive Committee. The committee members are the Chair of the Education Department, and three Program Coordinators of Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education. This committee will meet in the 3rd week of each semester to review all dismissal appeals from candidates and will be responsible for responding to candidates' appeals in writing within two weeks of the decision.

The Education Executive Committee will review the appeal request submitted by the candidate. A complete appeal will include the following documents:

1. PNC transcript
2. An explanation and analysis of the issues that led to dismissal
3. A letter from the candidate, with a detailed action plan for improvement

The appeal letter and attached documents should be addressed to the Education Executive Committee. In special circumstances, the committee may request an interview with the candidate.