William Paterson University

At William Paterson University, you will find a supportive and challenging environment that encourages you to push yourself, gain confidence, and come away with the knowledge that remarkable things are within your reach.

The University serves more than 11,000 students through five colleges: College of the Arts and Communication, Cotsakos College of Business, College of Education, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, and College of Science and Health. Our wide range of undergraduate and graduate academic programs create opportunities that help you succeed in our classrooms, laboratories, studios, and throughout our approximately 370-acre wooded campus.

Founded in 1855 and accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, the University is located in suburban Wayne, New Jersey, just 20 miles from New York City, adjacent to 1,200 acres of wetlands and woodlands, and only three miles from the Great Falls in Paterson.

At William Paterson, you’ll study in small classes taught by professors who are active in their fields. You will also enjoy individualized attention from faculty mentors who are committed to helping you develop your strengths, and uncover new ones.

Financial aid is available to qualified students.

For more information, visit wpunj.edu or call the Office of Admissions at 973.720.2125.
College of Education: Teaching as a Profession

Our Greatest Strength Is Helping You Find Yours

If you’re seeking to launch your career in education, William Paterson University can give you the power to achieve.

Founded in 1855 as a normal school for the preparation of teachers, William Paterson has a long history of providing outstanding programs in education. The University’s College of Education offers a wide range of challenging and rewarding undergraduate programs, as well as graduate, certification, and endorsement programs to help you succeed in your teaching career.

To Learn More
For more information on the undergraduate programs in William Paterson University’s College of Education, visit: wpunj.edu/coe

Student Communities, Support, and Involvement

New Jersey Student Education Association (NJSEA)
The NJSEA has great opportunities for professional development, community service, networking, and comradery among the University’s education students.

TIE (Teach. Inspire. Educate)
This recruitment and retention initiative is designed to increase diversity among those entering the teaching profession, providing William Paterson University male education majors from underrepresented backgrounds with mentoring, networking, and professional development opportunities.

HOLMES Honors Program
The Holmes programs at the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE) support students from historically underrepresented populations in entering and serving in the educator workforce. Holmes students at William Paterson have access to support, mentoring, networking, and opportunities to travel to national conferences, attend leadership training, and gain novice teacher support.
The College of Education Advantage
When you enroll in a program in the College of Education, you will study in small classes taught by distinguished faculty. You will also benefit from a cutting-edge curriculum that emphasizes multicultural education and the uses of new technologies. Our programs and courses prepare students for increasingly high standards of performance expected within contemporary school systems.

Accreditation
The College of Education, which is accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), serves as a major resource for schools and school districts by preparing teachers, counselors, and administrators to advance in the profession.

Advanced Facilities
The College of Education is located in the University’s state-of-the-art building at 1600 Valley Road, giving you access to specialized facilities for teaching and learning. It includes a model classroom designed for study and demonstration of optimum teaching methods, as well as an assistive technology classroom equipped with the latest tools designed to provide curriculum access to persons with disabilities.

Declaration of Major
Students can select a William Paterson education major from the beginning of their studies at the University. At 60 credits, education majors are evaluated, and if certain requirements are met, they may begin the introductory coursework of the education major. Requirements include 3.0 GPA in William Paterson University study, completion of prerequisite coursework, and qualifying scores on state-approved basic skills testing (PRAXIS CORE, or waiver based on appropriate SAT or ACT scores). Along with an education major, teacher candidates choose a major in an approved liberal arts or science area (exceptions: physical education and music education).

Undergraduate Education Majors
- Early Childhood Education (P-3) (BA)
- Elementary Education (K-6) (BA)
- Secondary Education (K-12) (BA)

Additional Licenses/Endorsements (restrictions may apply)
- Bilingual Education
- Elementary Education (for P-3 students)
- English as a Second Language (ESL)
- Middle School 5-8 Subject (for elementary students)
- Teacher of Students with Disabilities (TSD)

Grant Funding
The following grants provide support for education students at William Paterson.

TEACH Grant
This federal grant provides up to $4,000 per year to students who agree to teach for four years at an elementary school, secondary school, or educational service agency that serves students from low-income families and who meet other requirements.

PATSEL Grant
Preparing All Teachers to Better Serve English Learners (PATSEL). PATSEL is a U.S. Department of Education National Professional Development Grant that funds credits for ESL and bilingual certifications.

NOYCE Grant
This National Science Foundation Grant provides $10,000 per year (up to three years) for math education or science education majors who agree to teach for two years in a high-needs school district.
P-12 School Partnerships
The University’s robust Professional Development School Network (PDS) of more than 60 schools throughout New Jersey is a model of collaboration and support between the University and early childhood, elementary, middle, and high schools in the state. William Paterson professors in residence serve as in-building resources for novice and master teachers, as well as University teacher candidates, by modeling curriculum planning, classroom management, co-teaching, and other impactful pedagogical skills. Teachers and administrators in these schools also have access to professional development at the University. Through this partnership, our teacher candidates are offered additional resources in their clinical work, as our faculty are immersed in the schools and understand the specific needs and demands of the P-12 classrooms and schools.

Clinical Practice and Experience
Clinical experiences begin with a teacher candidate’s first education course, and continue throughout the education major through school and classroom visits. More substantial hours are attributed to the end of the education major, culminating in a final year of clinical practice experience, providing candidates with teaching and co-teaching experiences with effective classroom teachers. Teacher candidates are able to network with potential future employers during their clinical experiences.

Faculty
The College of Education faculty is well known throughout the state for involvement in New Jersey’s P-12 schools, for pursuit of scholarships and grants for students, and for research that informs the larger education community. Faculty include many prestigious Fulbright Scholars. Education class sizes are small (averaging 15-20 students), allowing teacher candidates to gain hands-on experience in their classes and build relationships with faculty mentors for professional growth.