

# Teacher Certification in Family & Consumer Sciences<sup>1</sup>

## College of Health and Human Sciences Northern Illinois University

### Transfer Guide for Illinois Community College Students

A student wishing to become certified to teach family and consumer sciences in the Illinois public school system must complete a comprehensive bachelor degree in Family, Consumer and Nutrition Sciences. In addition, a student must complete teacher certification coursework as indicated in the current undergraduate catalog including (a) discipline-based certification courses and (b) teacher education courses.

Students must be admitted to Northern Illinois University to participate in the certification program. However, admission to the university and/or to a degree program in the school does not necessarily constitute acceptance into the certification program. Students with a major in the School of Family, Consumer, and Nutrition Sciences who want to be certified to teach family and consumer sciences in grades 6-12 must:

1. Plan their programs of study in consultation with a teacher certification advisor in the school at the earliest possible date. Early selection of appropriate general education courses will eliminate course duplication.
2. Obtain consent from the program coordinator for enrollment in early field experiences.
3. Obtain school approval for admission into the teacher certification program. School approval for admission to the teacher certification program requires:
  - a. Admission to a major in Family, Consumer and Nutrition Sciences;
  - b. Passing the basic skills test in the Illinois Certification Testing System;
  - c. A cumulative GPA of at least 2.75 in all NIU course work and 3.00 in FCNS course work; and
  - d. Successful completion of FCNS 240.
4. Obtain school approval for admission into student teaching, which requires passing the family and consumer sciences content test in the Illinois Certification Testing System, have earned 14 semester hours at NIU, have earned 90 semester hours and make all arrangements for student teaching through the teacher certification advisor.
5. Maintain a minimum GPA of 2.75 in all NIU coursework with a 3.00 GPA in FCNS 341 and FCNS 344 for retention.

All students who wish to teach in Illinois public schools should consult the "Teacher Certification Requirements" section of the NIU Undergraduate Catalog for information which applies to all teacher certification programs at NIU.

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<sup>1</sup> 2008-2009 NIU Undergraduate Catalog

## **Courses Recommended Prior to Transfer**

*(Note: Transfer students are encouraged to review the transfer guide specific to the FCNS major they intend to pursue for additional details of course work to take prior to transfer to NIU.)*

FCNS 230 Child Development (3)  
FCNS 280 Human Development, the Family, and Society (3)  
Chemistry with lab  
Biology

Specific information about admission requirements to Northern Illinois University and to programs in the College of Health and Human Sciences can be found in the current [NIU Undergraduate Catalog](#). Contact the Office of Admissions to obtain an application for admission. For additional information on programs in the college, contact [HHSAdvisingHelp@niu.edu](mailto:HHSAdvisingHelp@niu.edu)

- ❖ College of Health and Human Sciences (815) 753-1891
- ❖ Department of Military Science (815) 752-7682
- ❖ School of Allied Health and Communicative Disorders
  - Clinical Laboratory Sciences (815) 753-1382
  - Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Rehabilitation Counseling (815) 753-1484
  - Physical Therapy (815) 753-1383
- ❖ School of Family, Consumer, and Nutrition Sciences (815) 753-6350
- ❖ School of Nursing and Health Studies
  - Nursing (815) 753-1231
  - Health Studies (815) 753-1891
- ❖ Gerontology Program (815) 753-0031
- ❖ Office of Admissions (815) 753-0446

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