

## **Neag School of Education Teacher Education Programs GPA Waiver Application**

### **Minimum GPA**

To be eligible for admission to the Integrated Bachelor's/Master's (IB/M) or Teacher Certification Program for College Graduates (TCPCG), applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.70. Meeting the minimum GPA does not guarantee admission, however.

### **GPA Waiver**

If an IB/M or TCPCG applicant has a cumulative GPA below 2.70, the student may submit a written waiver application letter and supporting materials requesting a waiver of the 2.70 GPA. Applicants who receive a GPA waiver are then eligible for admission. Receiving the GPA waiver does not guarantee admission, however.

### **Application**

GPA waiver applicants should upload the waiver application letter with the student's other application materials. The application will be reviewed by the GPA Waiver Committee. The GPA Waiver Committee will include a representative faculty member in the relevant program, the Director of Advising and Certification, and as relevant, the Associate Director of the TCPCG.

The GPA waiver application letter and supplemental materials (e.g., official transcript) must present compelling evidence of recent strong academic performance.

### **Rationale for consideration of a GPA waiver for IB/M or TCPCG applicants:**

Identification of, rationale for, and relevant documentation/evidence (examples provided in *italics*) of one of the following:

- 1) Candidates who can show a substantial and sustained improvement in their overall GPA during the last one to two years prior to applying for the program.  
*Documentation/evidence includes: official transcripts from all higher education institutions*
- 2) Candidates who have overcome temporary adverse or disabling conditions as demonstrated by sustained improvement over time in their overall GPA.  
*Documentation/evidence includes: explanatory letter from physician, therapist, or other medical professional including relevant dates*
- 3) Candidates who have an unusual/extenuating circumstance, such as family crisis, illness, trauma.  
*Documentation/evidence includes: explanatory letter from family member, accident/insurance report, family member obituary*
- 4) Candidates who have a B or better in the academic content area for the endorsement sought or in an undergraduate major.  
*Documentation/evidence includes: official transcripts from all higher education institutions*

- 5) Candidates who have successfully completed Praxis Subject Assessment or ACTFL (world language) in the content area for the endorsement sought (secondary majors).  
*Documentation/evidence includes: Praxis Subject Assessment or ACTFL score report with successful results*
  
- 6) Mature candidates who completed their undergraduate program at least ten years prior to application to an initial educator licensure program and who have demonstrated evidence of successful professional experience/accomplishments or successful completion of a graduate degree program.  
*Documentation/evidence includes: Official transcripts and/or evidence of successful employment*

### **Timeline and Process**

The GPA waiver application letter must be submitted by the IB/M or TCPCG application deadline. Failure to do so may result in the student's application not being processed.

The GPA waiver committee will review the student's GPA waiver materials to reach a decision regarding the granting or denial of the waiver. The committee may also request additional information from other University sources. The committee will meet soon after the application deadline for IB/M or TCPCG. The committee will make a recommendation to the Director of Teacher Education who makes the final decision regarding the waiver. The decision of Director is final and there is no further appeal available. The Director of Teacher Education notifies the student in writing of the decision within two weeks of the GPA waiver committee meeting.

### **Expectations**

GPA waiver-recipients admitted to IB/M or TCPCG will be on probation and are expected to raise their GPA in each subsequent semester (including the semester the student is applying). TCPCG admits must achieve a 3.0 or above semester GPA for Summer Session 1 (as required by The Graduate School). IB/M admits must achieve a 2.8 GPA by the end of spring semester junior year. *Students who do not meet these GPA requirements may be subject to dismissal from the teacher education program.*

*June 19, 2018*