

EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM [EPP] GPA POLICY

Requirements and Definitions

Students seeking certification in education through Shepherd University are required to obtain the following Grade Point Averages:

Educational Studies:	2.75 (includes Professional Studies and Specialty Studies courses)
Overall:	2.75 (includes all Shepherd and any transfer courses as applicable)

It is the policy of the EPP that these GPA requirements will not be waived. Extenuating circumstances will be considered by the appropriate school(s)/department(s) upon the receipt of a written request by a teacher candidate. In each case deemed to merit further consideration, the following regulations will apply:

- 1. Core Curriculum:**
 - a. The Core Curriculum program allows for some flexibility in the selection of courses. A university student may be allowed to take additional courses, in the areas where flexibility occurs, to raise their GPA. In effect, the new course(s) selected will substitute for the course(s) previously taken in calculating GPA.
 - b. Courses will be selected jointly by the student and faculty advisors within the School of Education/EPP.
- 2. Specialty Studies**
 - a. With the approval of the department involved, additional courses in the teaching field may be assigned to raise GPA.
 - b. Courses will be selected by the candidate's assigned Content-Area Specialist and/or faculty advisor.
- 3. Professional Studies:**
 - a. With the approval of the Director of the School of Education, additional courses in professional education may be assigned to raise a GPA.
 - b. Courses will be selected by the Director and/or faculty advisor within the School of Education.
- 4. Overall:**
 - a. With the approval of the Director of the School of Education and the appropriate teaching field department(s), additional courses may be assigned to raise a candidate's GPA.
 - b. Courses will be selected jointly by the Director and/or faculty advisor within the School of Education and the appropriate teaching field Content-Area Specialist.

GPA Requirements and Definitions:

- Core Curriculum: Those credit hours required by Shepherd University for a degree (e.g., Tier I and Tier II).
- Specialty Studies: Typically, those content courses required for certification in different fields of study (e.g., Multi-Subjects K-6, Social Studies 5-Adult, etc.)
- Professional Studies: Courses beginning with EDUC prefix required for certification in different fields of study.
- Educational Studies: The combination of Specialization and Professional Education courses required for certification in the various fields of study. [An overall 2.75 GPA is required in Educational Studies (combined Specialization [Specialty Studies] + Professional studies).]
- Overall: All courses taken for credit toward graduation, including Educational Studies, General Studies, and Electives.

NOTE: Per current WVDE and accreditation guidelines, a candidate's cohort must achieve an overall minimum GPA of 3.0 upon completion. The EPP at SU determines the Cohort's Overall GPA based on the teacher candidate's final semester; the "cohort" is identified by the candidates who complete EDUC 461 and the final clinical experience semester (e.g., student teaching, Residency II) at the same time.