

## Acronyms

**AAR** – Academic Affairs and Research; the office is responsible for the development and enrichment of academic programs and research initiatives at Arkansas State University (ASU). The Office is responsible for a range of academic pursuits that include degree programs in 168 undergraduate and graduate fields in 10 different colleges with faculty providing excellent learning opportunities in a caring environment.

**AFIs** – Areas for Improvement; statement cited by the Board of Examiners or the Unit Accreditation Board indicating that a unit has not met expected levels of achievement in one or more elements of a standard. The Board of Examiners may cite one or more areas for improvement and still recommend that the standard is met.

**AMLE** – Association of Middle Level Education

**ASU** – Arkansas State University; one of four state agricultural schools established in 1909; a comprehensive university located in Northeast Arkansas that serves citizens throughout Arkansas and surrounding states; the university is dedicated to teaching, research, and service providing students with the broad educational foundations that help develop critical thinking and analytical skills, decision-making capabilities, and communication skills; the students are engaged in a wide range of academic pursuits that include degree programs in 168 undergraduate and graduate fields in 10 different colleges. The mission is “Arkansas State University educates leaders, enhances intellectual growth, and enriches lives.”

**BOE** – Board of Examiners; group of examiners who conducts and evaluates the unit’s capacity to effectively deliver its programs.

**BSE** – Bachelor of Science in Education; an academic degree awarded for an undergraduate major that generally lasts for four years.

**CACREP** – Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs; is an independent agency recognized by the Council for Higher Education accreditation to accredit master’s degree programs in addiction counseling; career counseling; clinical mental health counseling; marriage, couple, and family counseling; school counseling; and student affairs and college counseling. It also accredits doctoral programs in counselor education and supervision.

**CEC** – Council for Exceptional Children; the largest international professional organization dedicated to improving the educational success of individuals with disabilities and/or gifts and talents. This organization advocates for appropriate governmental policies, sets professional standards, provides professional development, advocates for individuals with exceptionalities, and helps professionals obtain conditions and resources necessary for effective professional practice.

**CEE** – Center for Excellence in Education; one of the departments in the College of Education; the department offers a Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership. The Rural and Delta Stem Education Centers are also under the auspices of the CEE.

**COE** – College of Education; one of eleven colleges at Arkansas State University; the college has five departments: Center for Excellence in Education, Department of Educational Leadership, Curriculum, and Special Education, Department of Health, Physical Education and Sport Science, Department of Psychology and Counseling, and the Department of Teacher Education. The college also has four service units: Childhood Services, Educational Renewal Zone, Northeast Arkansas Mathematics and Science

Education Partnership, and Professional Education Programs. The college offers high quality academic programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Many of the programs are focused to prepare students to teach in the P-12 setting, serve as K-12 administrators, school counselors, school psychologists, and other school personnel. The college also offers degrees in athletic training, exercise science, community college teaching, psychology, rehabilitation counseling and an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership.

**COPE** – Council on Professional Education; governance council that reviews professional education matters for the unit; COPE is advisory to the Head of the Unit and will review requests, information, reports, curriculum proposal, etc. and forward to the appropriate standing committee or program committee for recommendations.

**CTE** – Career and Technical Education – Career and Technical Education has the purpose of providing the education and training necessary to prepare the workforce for a global economy.

**EdD** – Doctorate of Education; a discipline-based doctorate that prepares the student for academic, administrative, clinical or research positions in education, civil service, and private organizations.

**ELCC** – Educational Leadership Constituent Council; an affiliation of four administrator groups (ASCD, NAESP, NASSP, and NPBEA); conducts rigorous peer reviews of department on behalf of NCATE and determines which programs are deserving of national recognition.

**ELCSE** – Educational Leadership, Curriculum, and Special Education; one of the departments in the College of Education. The department offers MSE degrees in Educational Theory and Practice; Educational Leadership, Curriculum and Instruction; Gifted, Talented and Creative; and Special Education. The department also offers SCCT in Community College and the EdS in Educational Leadership.

**EPIC Platform** – Electronic Profile Information Center Platform; a way to deliver educational programs via the internet.

**ERZ** – Educational Renewal Zone; entity that promotes collaboration among public schools, education service cooperatives, colleges and universities, and parents and communities. The ERZ, consisting of members of the professional community, serves an advisory role to the unit by reviewing and evaluating the assessment system and unit evaluation. The ASU ERZ's overall objective is to improve student achievement. Collaboration among partners allows schools in eastern Arkansas to access instructional, financial, cultural, and technological support.

**GPA** – Grade Point Average; a calculation of the average of all of the student's grades for all semesters and courses completed up to a given academic term.

**GRE** – Graduate Record Exam; a standardized test that is an admissions requirement for many graduate schools in the United States.

**GT or GTC** – Gifted and Talented or Gifted, Talented, and Creative; an advanced degree program (M.S.E.) through the Department of Education Leadership, Curriculum, and Special Education, which meets Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) licensure requirements. Candidates may pursue a Program of Study (18 hours) for attaining an additional level of licensure. The mission of the program for Gifted, Talented, and Creative education is to provide expertise to program candidates regarding the exceptional learning needs of the gifted in grades P - 12.

**HLC** – Higher Learning Commission; an independent corporation and one of two commission members of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA), which is one of six regional institutional accreditors in the US. The Commission accredits degree-granting post-secondary educational institutions in the North Central region.

**HPESS** – Health, Physical Education and Sport Sciences; one of the departments in the College of Education; it offers undergraduate degrees in Physical Education, Sport Management, Athletic Training, Exercise Science, and Health Promotion; at the graduate level the department offers degrees in Exercise Science (MS), Physical Education (MSE), and Sports Administration (MS).

**IL/PB** - Initial Licensure – Post Baccalaureate or alternative-route licensure programs (MAT).

**IRA** - International Reading Association; a nonprofit professional organization that seeks to promote high levels of literacy by improving the quality of reading instruction.

**MAT** – Miller’s Analogy Test; an exam that measures analytic ability. It tests the ability to recognize relationships between concepts, English language facility, and general knowledge.

**MAT**- Master of Arts in Teaching, which leads to initial licensure at the master’s level.

**MSE** – Master of Science in Education; a postgraduate academic master’s degree awarded by universities.

**NAEYC** – National Association for the Education of Young Children; the largest nonprofit association in the United States representing early childhood education teachers, paraeducators, center directors, trainers, college educators, families of young children, policy makers, and advocates. This association is dedicated to improving the well-being of all young children, with particular focus on the quality of educational and developmental services for all children from birth through age 8.

**NAGC** – National Association for Gifted Children; an association that supports the needs of high potential learners.

**NASP** – National Association of School Psychologists; an association that represents school psychology and supports school psychologists to enhance the learning and mental health of all children and youth.

**NCATE** – National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education; an accrediting body for institutions that prepare teachers and other professional personnel for work in preschool, elementary, and secondary schools. It is a non-profit, non-governmental organization that is a coalition of more than 30 national associations representing the education profession at large.

**NMSA** – National Middle School Association; the former Association of Middle Level Education;

**ORTT** – Office of Research and Technology Transfer; the office has management responsibility for Arkansas State University’s research enterprise including direction of the Office of Pre-Awards, Responsible Conduct in Research, and Intellectual Property and Innovation. The goals of ORTT is to develop strategic directions to foster a robust research environment; encourage effective, service-based support for campus wide research efforts; advocate for research needs and resources; build interdisciplinary collaboration; and develop partnerships with other educational, private and public organizations.

**PEF** – Professional Education Faculty; consists of individuals employed by the university,

including graduate teaching assistants, who teach one or more courses in education, provide services to candidates (e.g. advising), supervise clinical experiences, or administers a portion of the unit. Initial approval for membership in the Professional Education Unit requires that university faculty meet criteria as described below.

1. Possess the appropriate terminal degree and have appropriate specialization for professional education or has unusual or exceptional qualifications for their teaching/supervision assignment;
2. Hold or have held a teaching, counseling, school psychology, or administrative license (appropriate to the university assignment).
3. Demonstrate continuing involvement with the public schools; Professional Education Faculty who supervise interns and/or teach methods courses are required to meet the following additional requirements:
  - a. A minimum of three years of teaching experience in a P-12 setting with the exception of school counselors/psychologists which require a minimum of two years of experience in a P-12 setting or special education faculty members which require either three years of classroom teaching or comparable experience (e.g., private/public institutions, residential treatment facility, subject to the approval of the department chair.
  - b. Be *Pathwise* trained if required by Arkansas Department of Education (ADE). If required to be *Pathwise* trained, be *Pathwise* trained by the end of the first semester of employment.

**PEP** – Professional Education Programs; office that coordinates the field experiences, placement of candidates, and assessment of candidates at the initial level. The office is also designed to assist students from the time of admission to completion of teacher licensure. The monitoring and/or coordination of admission into the teacher education program, field experiences, licensure, Praxis reports, Title 2 Report, assessment, teacher education retention checkpoints, intern meetings, scholarships, and partnerships are major responsibilities of this office.

**PEU** – Professional Education Unit; unit consisting of Professional Education faculty from the College of Education and faculty from other colleges within the university. This unit creates a community of educators who are responsible to the students, the public, and to each other to ensure the quality of future educators and education.

**PhD** – Doctor of Philosophy; the highest academic degree awarded by universities in most fields of study.

**SPAs** – Specialized Professional Associations; national organizations representing a specific program area that sets forth standards by which candidates mastery are measured. The standards developed by SPAs describe what professionals in the field should know and be able to do. All programs are required to have six to eight performance assessments.

**SREB** – Southern Regional Education Board – a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that works with 16 member states to improve public pre-K-12 and higher education.

**STEM** – Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics; these fields are those academic and professional disciplines collectively considered core technological underpinnings of an advanced society. The STEM Coalition works to support STEM programs for teachers and students at the US Department of Education, the National Science Foundation, and other agencies that offer STEM related programs.

**TE** – Teacher Education Department; one of the departments in the College of Education; this department offers BSE degrees in Early Childhood and Early Childhood/Special Education at the following campuses: Jonesboro, Beebe, Blytheville, MidSouth (West Memphis) and Mountain Home; the

department also offers BSE Middle Level degrees at the following campuses: Jonesboro, Blytheville, Beebe, EACC (Forrest City), MidSouth (West Memphis), and Newport; the department offers MSE degrees in Early Childhood Education, Early Childhood Services, Middle Level Education, Reading, and a Master of Arts in Teaching.

**TEAMS** – Teacher Education Assessment Management System; a systematic process for determining the extent to which the initial and the advanced programs address the outcomes of the conceptual framework(s). Internal and external program assessment data are collected in order to help evaluate the work of the Unit. The goal is to direct improvement efforts in order to ensure program quality.