

The mission of the University of Holy Cross Education Department is to educate hearts and minds through experiential service that fosters the spirit of compassion, justice, and selflessness in an ever-changing world.

**Certification-Only Program (Alternative Path to Certification)**

University of Holy Cross has certification-only programs in Elementary Education, Grades 1-5 and Secondary Education, Grades 6-12 in the following areas: Biology, Business, English, French, Spanish, General Science, Mathematics, and Social Studies.

## Stage One: Application to University of Holy Cross (UHC)

Before registering for courses, candidates must apply to (UHC) and complete all university admissions requirements. University admissions requirements include:

1. Application
2. Application Fee
3. Proof of Immunization Certificate
4. Baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college/university
5. Official transcripts from every college/university attended

## Stage Two: Admission to UHC and Enrollment in EDU Courses

Once all admissions requirements are fulfilled, candidates may begin to enroll in the required EDU courses that do not call for complete admission to the program as described in stage three. Required courses are listed in the UHC Curriculum Guide for Certification-Only Program Alternative Path to Certification Elementary Grades 1-5 and the UHC Curriculum Guide for Certification-Only Program Alternative Path to Certification Secondary Grades 6-12. Candidates must maintain a minimum of a 3.0 GPA in all EDU courses.

## Stage Three: Admission to the Methods and Internship Courses

After completing stages one and two, candidates must apply for formal admission to the

Certification-Only Program in order to enroll in the methods and internship courses. These methods and internship courses include EDU 445, EDU 460 B/D, and EDU 461 A/B. Candidates must earn a minimum grade of “B” in all methods and internship courses. Complete admission to the Certification-Only Program requires the following:

 1. Formal Application which includes:

1. Demographic information
2. PRAXIS II scores on content area tests that meet the Louisiana certification requirements
* Tests for specific areas of certification and the required scores can be found at [www.ets.org/praxis.](http://www.ets.org/praxis) Be sure to look for Louisiana certification requirements.
* It is highly recommended that you become familiar with ETS’s guidelines and requirements (for example, there are specific time lines for retaking tests and receiving scores.)
1. Reference forms ( Have each reference mail the form directly to chypolite@uhcno.edu)
2. Written Essay

 2. Acquire a Practioner License

* Candidates should acquire a Practioner License during their first semester of internship. To acquire the license candidates should contact the Coordinator of Certification Only Programs for further information.

## Stage Four: Completion of the Certification-Only Program and Application for Certification

All courses and requirements must be completed within three years. Upon completion of all courses and requirements, the UHC Education Department will apply for certification with the Louisiana Department of Education. Requirements for initial certification are as follows:

1. Completion of courses as listed on the curriculum guides
2. PRAXIS II scores on the Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) or World Languages Pedagogy if seeking certification in a foreign language that meet the Louisiana certification requirements

Tests for specific areas of certification and the required scores can be found at [www.ets.org/praxis.](http://www.ets.org/praxis) Be sure to look for Louisiana certification requirements.

1. Contact the Certification Officer in the UHC Education Department for the Certification Packet.