Information about the Undergraduate Application for Admission to Foreign Language Teacher Education Programs (BAT)

All applicants must pass the Illinois Certification Testing System Test of Academic Proficiency (TAP) or submit proof of an ACT composite score of 22 or higher with the writing component of the ACT test prior to admission. Candidates using the ACT scores in lieu of the TAP will need to follow the instructions at [www.cote.illinois.edu/certification/documents/act_procedures_for_admission.pdf](http://www.cote.illinois.edu/certification/documents/act_procedures_for_admission.pdf). Candidates taking the TAP must register for the test online at [www.icts.nesinc.com](http://www.icts.nesinc.com), no later than the last exam administered in the fall semester preceding the February 1 application.

Please note that admission is competitive and curriculum space is limited. *Meeting minimum criteria does not guarantee admission.* High demand for admission from well-qualified students results in highly selective admission standards. All applicants should have an alternate enrollment plan in the event that admission is not offered.

Eligibility Prerequisites

The following courses have been identified as prerequisites for entry into the teaching options of the foreign language teaching majors. Completion of the courses before entry serves two principal purposes: it provides evidence of a student's prospects for success in the advanced portion of the program, and it helps to ensure completion of the entire program in a timely manner. Applicants who have not completed or are not enrolled in the prerequisite courses at the time of application should not apply to these highly selective programs.

**Curricula Preparatory to the Teaching of Foreign Languages**

Completion of at least three courses beyond the intermediate level in the student's intended language by the end of the fall semester before the February application, and completion of/or enrollment in Humanities 471 when they apply. NOTE: It is highly recommended that students also complete EPSY 201 and EPS 202 (or 201) before they study abroad during their junior year. Students take SPED 205/SPED 405 in fall of the senior year.

**Deadlines**

Date for receipt of application is **February 1** for Fall admission. Please note: If February 1st falls on a weekend, applications will be due the following Monday. Students studying abroad during the Spring semester may turn in the application prior to leaving the country.

**Application**

To apply for admission, students need to submit the following by the deadline:

1. Completed application form
2. A well-ordered, two page maximum length, word-processed essay double spaced with font size no smaller than 10 point
3. A Experiences, Activities and Reference Form: The form will ask you to list and describe, in rank order, the five most important activities that have shaped who you are today. These may include community experience, work experience, volunteer experience, personal experiences, honors, awards, etc. Please write no more than a short paragraph description for each item. Please do not include the experiences you have listed on your hours verification form(s). The reference section will ask you to list one content area reference from your major. The review committees reserve the right to request additional references if needed.
4. Completed course list signed by major advisor and the Director of Secondary Education Programs
5. Hours Verification Form/s for required 50 hours of tutoring students K-12, preferably in foreign language major or ESL
Essay Guidelines
Please address both of the following points in your essay:

1. Reflecting upon your experiences, explain why you have chosen to pursue a career in teaching Spanish/German/French/Latin/Chinese/Japanese.
2. Explain how the study of a foreign language would benefit all K-12 students, both within and beyond the classroom.

Information for Applicants
Eligibility (Applicants must meet all criteria for admission to teacher education curricula.)

1. Students must not have earned a bachelor’s degree by the term of entry. (Students who have a baccalaureate degree may want to contact the appropriate graduate department about the possibility of pursuing teacher certification.)

2. All students must meet the following eligibility requirements:
   - Junior standing (60 hours completed by term of entry)
   - Competitive UIUC, cumulative, and major GPA (Applicants must have at least a 2.5 [A=4.000] UIUC, cumulative, and foreign language major GPAs, at the time of application.)
   - Satisfactory completion of Composition I
   - Demonstration of high-level written communication (quality of writing, thoughtfulness about education, reflective thinking)
   - Students applying to a foreign language teacher education program will be required to provide evidence of having 50 hours of formal experience tutoring students K-12, preferably in the applicant’s language major. Students may also complete such language experiences as working with migrant family programs, as counselors in intensive language camps, or in other ESL settings.
   - Passing score on or exemption from the Illinois Certification Test of Academic Proficiency. Please have scores sent to Council on Teacher Education, 505 E. Green, Champaign, IL 61820.

After Admission to the Foreign Language Teaching Program

1. Students admitted into a teacher education program will be required to attend a mandatory meeting regarding the program and its requirements. Time, date, and location of the mandatory meeting will be provided in your admission letter.

2. All undergraduate students enrolled in the Bachelor of Arts in Teaching Foreign Language teacher preparation program will be assessed a one-time clinical experience fee to partially cover costs associated with early field and student teaching experiences. This non-refundable fee is based on the approved fee at the time you entered the University per the Illinois Compiled Statue 110 ILCS 305/25. Accepting the offer of admission is an agreement on your part to pay this fee.

3. The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign requires field placement in school districts as part of various educational curricula and certificate programs. Illinois school districts are required by state law to conduct criminal background checks for applicants for certified and non-certified positions with a school district. School districts are requiring that applicants for field placements be subjected to a criminal background check prior to placement in the school districts. Certain convictions are a bar to employment with a school district and are fully set out in the Illinois School Code, 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9, as amended. All convictions will be reviewed for compatibility with placement in a school district. As part of this application, you will be required to consent to a criminal background check including submission of your fingerprints. Failure to consent to the background check will result in your not being able to complete a public school certification program and in the cancellation of any admission to the program. For further information on this requirement, call the Council on Teacher Education at (217) 333-2804.