

Gustavus Adolphus College
Education Department Fees

The Gustavus Education Department provides licensure programs that are regulated by the Minnesota Department of Education. State requirements mandate standards and processes for the assessment of candidates at all institutions seeking teaching licenses. To gather and manage state teacher standards data, all admitted students will purchase an account on TaskStream, which will house their data as they prepare for licensure. Students will be billed the \$91.00 fee upon admission into the Education Department.

Students working in local schools as part of their coursework will need to complete a background check prior to spending time in the schools. Districts require a background check for all individuals working with children and youth in the classrooms. The college will complete this process for each student as a part of their admission to the Education Department. This fee is \$30 and will be billed during (or immediately after) the semester the student is admitted.

In addition, the state mandated TPA (Teacher Performance Assessment) must be completed during student teaching as a requirement for licensure. Pearson, Inc., conducts the assessment and manages the evaluation of the TPA. The cost of evaluating and processing this lengthy evaluation tool is \$300. Students will be billed this amount the semester they student teach.

Students will be responsible for fees to be paid when they register for the state teacher education Basic Proficiency Tests (in Reading, Writing and Mathematics) and the Content & Pedagogy tests. These tests, the Minnesota Teacher Licensing Exams (MTLE) as well as any background checks required by the school sites where they will be teaching, are the responsibility of the individual student.

These fees, subject to college and state department requirements, were implemented in April of 2012.

Education Fees billed to students:

At admission: \$91.00 TaskStream account
\$30.00 Background check*

Student Teaching semester: \$ 300. TPA (Teacher Performance Assessment)* *
State required assessment

* beginning in fall of 2012

** beginning in fall of 2013

Background Check Policy

Background checks are required for most school districts in the state of Minnesota and the Minnesota Board of Teaching 'highly recommends' that all preservice teachers complete a background check. Gustavus students will have a background check completed as a part of their admissions process. The college will process the background check and will issue the department a letter clarifying the status of the individual. Any individual with concerns will be notified.

Letters will be available for students to take with them to the schools where they will be completing a practicum experience or student teaching. Should the particular school district require a unique background check form in addition to the college process, the student will be required to pay for this additional level of check. Support for this process may be available for students with specific identified need.