

Chicago State University

Chicago, Illinois

The Physics Teacher Education program at Chicago State University prepares students to teach physics and other science subjects at the high school level. The Chemistry and Physics Department has four faculty/staff member(s) working in our physics teacher preparation program. Each of these individuals are full-time employees of the University.

Currently, there is one required undergraduate physics teaching methods course totaling three semester hours and taught by the Chemistry and Physics Department. In addition, there are about four physics teacher education majors enrolled in the physics teacher education program.

This program provides a thorough study of representative fields of physics, and requires additional study of chemistry, biology, mathematics and earth science. The required program of study integrates a minimum concentration of 66 semester hours of science content courses (not including physics/science teaching methods courses) with a professional education sequence of 27 semester hours and a general education requirement of 33 semester hours. A total of 115 clock hours of clinical experiences in high schools are associated with required physics/science methods and education courses. Physics teacher education majors must complete not less than 15 full weeks of student teaching in physics. Upon graduation, physics teacher education majors earn a BS degree in Physics with a Science Certification and a designation in Physics. The University does offer an alternative route to teacher certification if you already have a degree in Physics or a related subject.

The standard program of study for physics teacher education majors at Chicago State University begins with teacher education and physics/science methods courses during the junior year and continues through student teaching. Key features of the program include opportunities to participate in (1) Physics/Chemistry education research projects, (2) outreach programs such as Science Fair Central and Science Career Day, and (3) our Summer Science Van Programs for In-service and Preservice Teachers.

The University is accredited by North Central and NCATE and the physics teaching program is accredited by the NSTA.

For further information about the physics teacher education program at Chicago State University, visit our web page at the following web address: <http://www.csu.edu/chemistryandphysics/>. For additional information not available through this web page, contact Mel Sabella (msabella@csu.edu) by email.