

COVER PAGE
APPLICATION FOR INDIGENOUS ROOTS TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM
K-8 ELEMENTARY and PREK-3 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

I am applying for (select one) in the ROOTS Initial Certification/Undergraduate Program:

_____ **Ed K-8 Grade certification**

_____ **Early Childhood Ed/PreK-3rd Grade certification**

Last Name _____ First Name _____ MI _____

Tribal Affiliation _____

Mailing Address _____

(include street address as well as PO Box)

(include city, state, zip code)

Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

E-mail address _____

Social Security Number: **Contact the Program Director, Nancy Engen-Wedin by phone – 402-472-3856 (work) or 612-237-4975 (cell).**

I understand that this program and the U.S. Department of Education requires a Signed Payback Agreement:

(Signature/Date Required) _____

Completion of Bachelors Degree transferred from _____

Completion of 42 or more credit hours (preferably AA degree) transferred from _____

Beginning Professional Courses (which have you successfully completed):

Child/Adolescent Development _____ Education Foundations _____ Other _____

Praxis I _____ Reading _____ Math _____ Writing _____

Concentration: ELL _____ American Indian Language (6 or more credits) _____

Technology Requirement _____

Admissions Check List (Application must be complete for consideration)

_____ Application Cover Sheet

_____ NDE Regulations and Moral Character Statement Forms

_____ Official AA or Undergraduate Transcripts from community colleges, universities, etc.

_____ Short Questionnaire/Essay: Accomplishments, Diversity, Commitment to Teaching

_____ Three Letters of Recommendation

_____ Completion of the One-Source Criminal History Check (send receipt of payment in with the application)

For more information contact Nancy at the ROOTS office at nengenwedin2@unl.edu 402-472-3856. Mail your Application and all accompanying materials (including transcripts, letters) to:

Nancy Engen-Wedin, Project Director

University of Nebraska Lincoln

Dept. of Teaching, Learning Teacher Education

Indigenous Roots Teacher Education Program

156 Carolyn Pope Edwards Hall, Lincoln, NE 68588-0355

NEBRASKA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION REGULATIONS SIGNATURE FORM

- I. To be admitted to a Nebraska teacher preparation program, candidates must pass the approved basic skills tests. The basic skills competency is also a requirement for issuance of a Nebraska Initial, Standard or Professional certificate. Effective September 1, 2014, the Praxis® Core Academic Skills for Educators (Reading, Writing and Mathematics, or Praxis I) is the approved basic skills test. Additional information regarding the basic skills testing requirements can be found on the ROOTS website, in the [Nebraska Teacher Certification Manual \(PDF\)](https://www.education.ne.gov/TCERT/pdfs/Manual%20web-5.pdf)., also found at <https://www.education.ne.gov/TCERT/pdfs/Manual%20web-5.pdf>

I understand that I am required to achieve passing scores on the above mentioned Praxis I basic skills tests before I am allowed to enroll in 300 level methods courses or student teaching and before I can be recommended for an entry level teaching certificate. I may retake any portion of the Praxis I as many times as I choose until I have received acceptable scores.

Effective September 1, 2015, passing one or more Praxis® Subject Assessments will be required for those seeking an initial endorsement on a Nebraska certificate. (Praxis II) See the <http://www.ets.org/praxis/ne/requirements> for more information.

II. CONVICTED OF A FELONY OR MISDEMEANOR RULE

I understand that if I have been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor in any State, special circumstances apply to my application for teacher certification and I will meet with Dr. Sara Skretta, the College of Education and Human Sciences officer, to discuss these special circumstances as soon as possible.

I also understand that if a court or any other governmental body has determined that I am any of the following: a mentally ill and dangerous person, mentally incompetent to stand trial, acquitted of criminal charges because of insanity, an incapacitated person in need of a guardian, or unable to manage your property due to mental illness, mental deficiency, chronic intoxication, that I will also meet with Dr. Sara Skretta. (See "Moral Character" statement that is attached.)

Full Name (Please Print)

Signature

Date

College of Education and Human Sciences

STATEMENT ON MORAL CHARACTER

Teaching is a profession that requires its potential candidates to be individuals of integrity. Prospective teachers must be able to demonstrate that they are individuals of strong moral character who can make mature decisions for themselves and for their students. Teachers are responsible for the education, safety, and well-being for anyone in their charge. Therefore, the College of Education and Human Sciences is interested in working with individuals of high moral character who can serve as representatives of our College and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

With this in mind, should the College discover behavior on the part of the candidate which establishes a lack of integrity or moral/ethical character, the College of Education and Human Sciences reserves the right to deny entry to or dismiss anyone from any program which leads to certification.

Behavior which establishes a lack of integrity or moral/ethical character may exist when a student has a record of arrests and/or convictions which impacts the candidate's ability to represent himself or herself as a professional in the field of education, or other information exists which Teachers College reasonably determines renders the candidate a risk to the educational community or demonstrates a likelihood of illegal activity.

Full Name (Please Print)

Signature

Date

College of Education and Human Sciences

CRIMINAL HISTORY BACKGROUND CHECK

Students who are required to go into daycare facilities, schools, hospitals or other community agencies, as part of their undergraduate program, must complete a background check before the College of Education and Human Sciences can place them in these facilities. The background check must be completed through the approved process (using OneSource) and other background checks cannot be substituted. This is required for all undergraduate and graduate students pursuing initial teacher certification, adding or renewing endorsements, conducting research in a facility, or simply job shadowing. It is also required as a part of admissions into the ROOTS program. The College of Education and Human Sciences will monitor student registration in specific courses that require background reports to be on file, before a student can proceed in the course.

The Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) is the governing body for all schools in Nebraska and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is the governing body for all early childhood centers. Please complete the background check as part of your admissions into the ROOTS program; the directions are outlined below. If you acquire a new charge or conviction after you have submitted a background check or self-disclosure report, you are obligated to immediately report this to the Indigenous Roots Teacher Education program or the Director of Professional Experiences, Dr. Sara Skretta, sskretta2@unl.edu.

HOW TO COMPLETE YOUR BACKGROUND CHECK

OneSource, The Background Check Company will conduct your review. The website to register for the background check is:

<https://www.onesourcebackground.com>

Directions for accessing the OneSource website:

Under Tools, click Students. On the page that opens, choose University of Nebraska at Lincoln. When the next screen opens click on CEHS Initial Entry to College, and then follow the question prompts to apply for the Criminal History Check. If you do not have a University of Nebraska ID number, then enter 99999999 in the "Department Field" on the application, or leave the field blank. UNL will automatically receive your report from OneSource once you have submitted and paid for the application.

You will receive an email receipt of your payment to OneSource.

Print two copies of the receipt you receive from OneSource. (The fee for OneSource will be between \$25.00-\$28). Send the receipt along with your application for the Indigenous Roots program and you will be reimbursed by the grant for this cost.

INDIGENOUS ROOTS TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM
Elementary Teacher Education, ELL and/or Special Education

Personal Statement

1. Provide a personal statement explaining your academic achievement over the minimum 2.50 GPA requirement for admissions into this program. (Please consider your participation in honors programs, special awards, or other academic accomplishments.) As part of this personal statement you might also include comments or quotes from someone who is completing a letter of recommendation for you.

Exceptional Accomplishments

2. Provide a personal statement explaining any exceptional accomplishments in service to others, leadership, second language, Native language or cultural activities, writing, mathematics, science, computer skills, music, art, or other special skills or talents. (Consider listing publications, presentations, performances, or awards. Consider also describing experiences in any areas of talent.) As part of this personal statement, you may also include comments or quotes from someone who is completing a letter of recommendation for you.

Cross-Cultural Experiences

3. Provide a personal statement explaining any cross-cultural experiences that suggest that you have an understanding of and ability to work successfully with members of diverse groups. (Consider describing your understandings of and sustained experiences with ethnicity, socio-economic level, religion, gender, disability, labor, management, sexual orientation, and national origin.) As part of this personal statement, you may also include comments or quotes from someone who is completing a letter of recommendation for you.

Commitment to the Profession and a Capacity to Meet its Standards

4. Provide a personal statement explaining your commitment to the teaching profession and your ability to meet its professional standards. (Consider describing any relevant work, volunteer, or practicum experiences with Infants to 13 year-olds and/or adolescent students.) As part of this personal statement, you may also include comments or quotes from someone who is completing a letter of recommendation for you.
5. Describe why it is important for you to teach at the Elementary Level (or in a specific subject area) and specifically why you want to work with American Indian students.