

Elementary Education Program Frequently Asked Questions

1. Are the classes face to face or online?
 - a. Classes are offered both face to face and online. Face to face courses meet in the evenings (6:30 – 9:30) or on Saturdays. This schedule is designed for working professionals.
2. Is financial aid available?
 - a. Students seeking financial aid should complete the FAFSA to determine eligibility. Elementary Education students may qualify for PELL and EASE grants.
3. What is the cost of textbooks?
 - a. The cost of textbooks varies each semester and course.
4. How many classes is considered full time?
 - a. A student is considered full time when taking a minimum of 12 credit hours. These 12 credit hours will span the A and B terms in the fall, spring and summer semesters.
5. Do I need to be fingerprinted with the Polk County School Board to be accepted to the program?
 - a. Yes, fingerprinted is required before your application can be completed.
6. How long does it take to complete the program?
 - a. Students transferring in with an AA have approximately two years of Education major coursework to complete.
7. Do I need to pass the GKT prior to admission?
 - a. No, however all components of the Florida Teacher Certification Exams (FTCE) must be passed prior to graduation. Your academic advisor will work with you to ensure that you are taking the tests by certain program milestones.
8. Which Florida Teacher Certification Exams (FTCE) do I need to complete?
 - a. All Elementary Education students must pass all sections on the General Knowledge Test (GKT), Professional Educator Test (PED), and Subject Area Exam (SAE) – Elementary K-6.
9. How long are the academic semesters?
 - a. The fall, spring, and summer semesters are 16 weeks long. However, each semester is divided into two 7-week terms (term A and term B).
<https://www.flsouthern.edu/sage/additional-info/schedules-important-dates.aspx>
10. Is there an internship?
 - a. Yes, there is a 70-school day internship which is completed in Polk County Public Schools during the last semester of the program and once all program requirements are met.
11. Is the program state-approved?
 - a. Yes, Florida Southern College's Elementary Education program is fully approved by the Florida Department of Education.
12. Will I be eligible for a teaching certificate when I graduate?
 - a. Yes, graduates from FSC's Elementary Education program are eligible for a Florida Professional Teaching Certificate upon graduation. It is the responsibility of the program graduate to apply for the professional teaching certificate through the FLDOE.
13. How will I know which classes to take each semester?
 - a. Your academic advisor will create a schedule for you to follow from beginning to end of the program. Your academic advisor will assist you in registering for courses each semester and will ensure you are completing all requirements throughout the program.