

College of Southern Idaho
Teacher Education

EDUC 201 Foundations of Education Autobiographical Essay Portfolio Entry

As one of the required entries for your Teacher Education Portfolio, you must write a biographical essay that summarizes your educational and professional background and experiences.

Use the questions below to guide the content of your biographical essay. Of course, you may provide any additional information that you feel is important. Because your essay will be a direct reflection of your qualifications as a developing professional, your essay should represent your very best writing. As you progress through the Teacher Education Program, you will continue to review your educational and professional experiences, and make adjustments and additions to your biographical essay.

1. Educational Background

Where did you attend elementary, secondary, and post-secondary school? What is your current level of education? What special educational experiences have you had in terms of special schools, programs, or studies? **How has your education contributed to your development as a professional educator?**

2. Work History

What work experiences have you had? What were your particular roles and responsibilities? **How have these experiences contributed to your development as a professional educator?**

3. Service and/or Extracurricular Activities

In what service and/or extracurricular activities are you currently involved? **How have these activities contributed to your development as a professional educator?**

4. Reasons for Choosing Education as a Career

When did you first consider education as a career? Why did you decide to become a teacher? What other careers have you considered? What rewards do you anticipate?

5. Professional Goals

What are your long-term goals? How did you expect to achieve these goals?

The purpose of the biographical essay is to provide a profile of yourself as an individual and future educator. As such, you should focus your writing on those experiences that have led to your decision to become a teacher. This portfolio entry is designed to address the following Idaho Core Teacher Standards:

- ICTS 9: Professional Commitment and Responsibility – *The teacher is a reflective practitioner who demonstrates a commitment to professional standards and is continuously engaged in purposeful mastery of the art and science of teaching.*

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- ICTS 6: Communication Skills – *The teacher uses a variety of communication techniques to foster inquiry, collaboration, and supportive interaction in and beyond the classroom.*