University of Massachusetts Amherst
Secondary Teacher Education Program (STEP)

Information for undergraduate majors in the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics who are interested in becoming mathematics or science teachers.

Complete the subject matter requirements for the subject that you would like to teach.

High School Biology: Complete the UMass major in biology or biochemistry. (Other life science majors are possible but may require supplementary coursework.)

High School Chemistry: Complete the UMass major in chemistry or biochemistry.

High School Earth Science: Complete the UMass earth science major in the geosciences department.

High School Physics: Complete the major in physics.

Middle School General Science: Complete the UMass Science major or complete at least a minor in one of the sciences and introductory courses in the other three sciences.

High School or Middle School Mathematics: Complete the UMass mathematics major.

Introductory teacher education courses:

EDUC 524: Second semester sophomore or junior year.
EDUC 497L: Sophomore or junior year.
PSYCH 305: Sophomore or junior year.

Apply to Secondary Teacher Education Program (STEP):
Complete application in spring of Junior year for entry into the program fall of senior year.
Pass Communication and Literacy portion of MTEL before admission to the program.

Teaching Methods and student teaching

EDUC 511 or 512, EDUC 592S, and EDUC 615J: Fall of senior year (6 credits total)
Pass MTEL subject matter test before student teaching.
EDUC 500S/M, and EDUC 510: Student teaching and seminars, Spring senior year.