

The Piedmont College Cohort Program

The mission of the School of Education is:

Mastering the Art of Teaching:

Preparing Proactive Educators to Improve the Lives of All Children.

It is our mission to prepare reflective, scholarly, proactive educators. These practitioners help their own students become knowledgeable, inquisitive, and collaborative learners in diverse, democratic learning communities.

Our outstanding faculty is committed to supporting the preparation and professional development of individuals who want to make a difference in the lives of students. Each is an experienced and successful teacher; many also have held leadership roles as building-level or central office administrators in schools. We welcome your interest and invite you to consider joining our growing family of outstanding educators who are making a difference the lives of others.

Dr. Don Gnecco
Dean, School of Education
PIEDMONT COLLEGE

What is a cohort?

A cohort is a group of educators with similar backgrounds and educational interests who collectively take courses on site, usually at a local school in their county or a neighbouring county. A cohort is usually comprised of 16-18 educators. This team of educators will be equipped to positively affect students and the educational community in their district.

What do we offer?

Master of Arts (MA) Degree in content fields; Early Childhood Education, Middle Grades Education (Math, Language Arts, Social Sciences and Science) or Secondary Education (Math, English, History and Science). Some teachers may wish to add a new field to an existing clear-renewable certificate. This degree will upgrade your certificate to a T-5.

Educational Specialist (EDS) Degree in Curriculum and Instruction; This degree will upgrade your certificate to a level S-6.

How long does it take to earn a degree?

Your MA or EDS degree is designed to be completed in four semesters.

Who can apply?

Teachers who have a clear-renewable certificate.

What makes the Cohort concept advantageous for me?

- On site advisement, registration, instruction, and evaluation, "We come to you."

- The coursework is tied to local school improvement efforts, as well as an emphasis on your field of study.
- Assignments and research are directly related to teaching.
- Courses are taught by doctoral level, scholarly practitioners who are involved in the real world of education.
- Classes meet one night per week for 4 hours for a period of eight weeks during the school year. Summer classes are held during the day (with a scheduled "vacation" period.)

What are the ultimate goals of the Cohort program?

- Develop scholarly practitioners
- Prepare proactive educators to improve the lives of children.
- Improve our schools
- Improve student achievement

What do Piedmont graduates think of the program?

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my privilege to write this letter of gratitude to Piedmont College for the opportunity to have experienced the Educational Specialist Cohort Program. Piedmont exceeded my expectations by providing a highly-credentialed faculty who supported each of us every step of the way. I appreciate the convenience of the Cohort program being based in my community, which allowed me to learn from faculty members who know what it takes to successfully complete an advanced degree program while working full time. This made all the difference and I will be forever grateful.

Sincerely,

Kaleen Pulley, Principal
 Buford Academy
 Buford City Schools
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Since the inception of the bringing graduate programs to local school districts in 1997, over 8,000 teachers have graduated with advanced degrees.

Teachers study at Piedmont because of our:
 reputation - flexibility - positive culture - innovative face to face program - convenience - value

All teacher education programs offered at Piedmont College are accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and the Georgia Professional Standards Commission.

www.Piedmont.edu

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Piedmont College Financial Fast Facts

- **Deadline to apply for the fall 2014 semester is April 1, 2014.**
- **There is no application fee to apply.**
- **Cost of the program:**

MA - ECE and MG = 30 hour program = \$13,320 + \$100 graduation fee = \$13,420

MA - SEC = 36 hour program = \$15,984 + \$100 graduation fee = \$16,084

EDS - 30 hour program = \$13,320 + \$100 graduation fee = \$13,420

Detailed information for each semester:

MA - 4 semesters - typical schedule: 6 hours for spring, 9 hours for summer, 6 for fall, 9 for spring.
ECE = 30 hours MG = 30 hours SEC = 36 hours *Secondary candidates take 9 hours each semester.*
\$444 per credit hour

EDS - 4 semesters - typical schedule: 9 hours for spring, 9 for summer, 6 for fall, 6 for spring.
30 hours at \$444 per credit hour

Comparison between private and public Georgia institutions

Prior to 2008, the tuition gap between Georgia public and private institutions was steep. Due to cuts from the Board of Regents to public universities and colleges, student fees (in addition to tuition) have increased at public institutions. Tuition may remain lower at public colleges and universities but the student fees assessed each semester (e.g., Georgia State: \$1,064 for 6 or 9 hours for fall 2013) affect the bottom line. http://sfs.gsu.edu/files/2012/11/FY14_Graduate.pdf

Mandatory Student Fees*

Hours	In-state tuition	Activity	Athletic	Health	Internt'l	Library	Rec	Stud. Ct.	Transp.	Tech.	UGS Inst	Total Fees	Total Tuition
9	\$3,132.00	\$92.00	\$263.00	\$35.00	\$15.00	\$35.00	\$53.00	\$36.00	\$46.00	\$85.00	\$404.00	\$1,064.00	\$4,196.00
6	\$2,088.00	\$92.00	\$263.00	\$35.00	\$15.00	\$35.00	\$53.00	\$36.00	\$46.00	\$85.00	\$404.00	\$1,064.00	\$3,152.00

As you compare our program to others please note that the only additional fee we have is a \$100.00 graduation fee. There are no other mandatory fees added to your tuition.

30 hours as noted on the GA State Website: (in-state tuition)

spring 2014 for 9 hours = \$4,196.00

summer 2014 for 9 hours = \$3,978.00 (fees are lower by \$218 in summer)

fall 2014 for 6 hours = \$3,152.00

spring 2015 for 6 hours with no increase = \$3,152.00

Graduation Application Fee = \$50.00 **Grand total = \$14,528**

Piedmont College - 30 hours grand total = \$13,420

A savings to you of \$1,108 with no commuting or parking fees!
Thanks for considering Piedmont College for your graduate studies!