

## **Initial Professional Teaching Certificate**

An *Initial Professional Certificate* (IPC) is the first certificate a new educator receives. A minimum of a baccalaureate degree from a college or university having a teacher education program approved by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is required. The applicant must have a recommendation for certification from the designated official for teacher education at the college or university where the program was completed. The applicant must have a minimum grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale, both overall and in the content area. The applicant must obtain Missouri's passing score on the appropriate Missouri Content Assessment(s) **MOCA** and receive qualifying scores for the four tasks of the Missouri Preservice Teacher Assessment **MOPTA**.

**Note:** The GPA requirements for program completers will increase in 2017 to 2.75 blended GPA and 3.0 professional/content GPA.

## **Completion of the Application Process**

Completion of the teacher certification program is contingent upon the following:

- Completion of all certification requirements to include student teaching/field experience.
- Qualifying blended + professional/content GPAs.
- Submission of an acceptable Missouri Pre-service Teacher Assessment (**MoPTA**).
- Submission of a qualifying Missouri Content Assessment score (**MOCA**).

The University will not submit a recommendation for certification to the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for initial teacher certification until all criteria have been met.

Time during student teaching seminars will also be devoted to the application process.