

Frequently Asked Questions

Who can apply to Magis?

Magis recruits applicants that are passionate about Catholic education and committed to service.

Some Magis applicants already have an undergraduate degree in education while others have degrees in an endorsable content area. Anyone with an education degree is invited to apply. Applicants that have not gone through a teacher preparation program are invited to apply as long as they meet requirements for a teaching endorsement in a specific content area.

Field endorsements are offered in: art, language arts, natural science and social science.

Subject endorsements are offered in biology, chemistry, English, French, history, journalism, Latin, mathematics, physics, religious education and Spanish.

To see if you qualify for a teaching endorsement in one of these areas, send your unofficial transcript to the Magis assistant director.

I graduated from college a few years ago. Am I still eligible to apply?

While there is not an age requirement, typical applicants are college seniors or within a few years of having finished college. It is common for applicants to work or volunteer for a few years before joining Magis.

I'm interested in applying to Magis Catholic Teacher Corps. What's my first step?

Great! Your first step is to contact the Magis director or assistant director via phone or email. A copy of your transcript will be required for a transcript analysis to verify that you have the courses required for a teaching endorsement through the Nebraska Department of Education. Once the transcript analysis is complete, go to the Magis website to apply on-line through the Creighton University Graduate School. You'll also want to register right away to take the Praxis I (also called the PPST) if you have not already done so as score reports can take several weeks to generate. Go to www.ets.org to sign up to take the computer-based Praxis I.

When are applications due and when will I know if I am accepted?

The application deadline is January 31, 2014. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis beginning in early January. Interviews will occur throughout the month of February. Placements occur in mid-March 2014. More details on the application timeline are in the online "Application Packet."

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Can I choose where I teach?

In short, no, but if you receive an interview, you will have the opportunity to share your preference. The placement process in Magis relies heavily on discernment and finding an appropriate placement for the applicant. Placements are based on the needs of the partner principals, and these placements vary from year to year. Notification of full acceptance will occur the week of March 17, 2014.

Where are Magis teachers placed?

Magis teachers are placed in Catholic schools in a variety of settings including urban, rural, and suburban schools and on Native American Indian reservations. During the 2014-2015 school year we will have communities in the following locations:

- Omaha, NE
- Hastings, NE
- Kansas City, KS
- Winnebago Indian Reservation (Winnebago, NE)
- Pine Ridge Indian Reservation (Pine Ridge, SD)

Will I be able to coach or serve as a club moderator as a Magis teacher?

Yes! Magis teachers are encouraged to get involved in the school community as coaches and club moderators because it is great way to get to know the students and school community. Note: 1st year Magis teachers are limited to assistant coaching positions due to the demands of academic coursework, community living, and intentional spiritual development. In the 2nd year, Magis teachers may increase extracurricular commitments.

Do I have a choice in the Education courses that I take?

The Magis teachers enrolled in the Masters of Education and School Counseling degree tracks follow a scripted plan of study designed specifically to meet the graduation and endorsement requirements in two or three of years. Teachers enrolled in the Teacher Leadership degree track have the possibility of choosing four electives during the program.

What does Community Living look like in Magis?

All Magis teachers live in community during the summers on Creighton's campus. During the year, all Magis teachers also live in community, but the size of the community and the type of housing varies from placement to placement. Communities range from 3-8 people. Each teacher has his/her own room, but often share bathrooms. Magis communities are expected to support one another in each of the pillars of Magis and to live intentionally and simply as members of a volunteer program. Regular dinners and social outings are common and encouraged.

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What does the Spirituality Pillar look like in Magis?

The Magis spirituality pillar is rooted in Ignatian Spirituality, the spirituality of the Jesuits. Through seminars, coursework, faith sharing, masses and prayer Magis teachers learn about the life of St. Ignatius and the charisms of the Jesuits. Magis teachers participate in regular faith sharing, weekly prayer with communities and three retreats through out the year. Applicants from any faith background and at any point in their spiritual journey are encouraged to apply.

Am I required to come to Omaha for an interview?

We would love to host you for a visit, but your interview with Magis can be done via Skype if you live outside of Omaha.

Will I get to meet my new principal before beginning Magis in the summer?

Yes! If you are accepted into the Magis Catholic Teacher Corps, you are required to attend the Spring Orientation Retreat on April 25-26th on Creighton's campus. During this weekend, you will get a chance to meet the other members of your Magis cohort, your principal, superintendent, and other Creighton faculty and staff. More details will be provided upon acceptance.