

I want to teach middle school or high school Biology!

Middle school science teachers need a teaching endorsement in general science. A typical middle school offers one semester of life science and one semester of earth science. At the junior high and senior high level, students begin structured courses in biology, chemistry and physics and the teacher must have an endorsement in each discipline in order to teach the subject. Whatever level you teach, you'll need a plentiful supply of energy, creativity and intellectual commitment. Even with a degree in biology, you'll never be adequately prepared to teach biology - the field is growing so fast, and keeping up with new developments will be an ongoing challenge. Many school districts do not have a set curriculum in biology; much is left up to the teacher to decide what to teach. But the national effort to reform science education has resulted in national and state standards outlining what students should know about science at different grade levels

Process for asking for an Endorsement in Biology:

1. Review the requirements for the endorsement here:
2. Gather transcripts and/or resume (if work experience is relevant).
3. Contact Jason Patterson, patterj@uw.edu, Biology advisor, either to evaluate your file by email or to set up an appointment.
4. If deficient, work on missing requirements, though some can be completed after you are admitted to the program, though you should be done with 90% of your requirements.
5. When applying to the program, you will need a letter, not an evaluation to submit. Applications are generally due in October.

Here is more information about the Secondary Application process through the College of Education:

<https://education.uw.edu/programs/teacher/secondary/apply-now/application%20requirements>

Also, you will need to think about the additional requirements for the program, including observing in a science classroom for a set number of hours and a class requirement mandated by the program.

An Endorsement in General Science

To achieve an endorsement in Science then you will need a minimum of **45 credits** and an endorsement in one of the natural sciences (*only in one area*) which can be in Biology, Chemistry and/or Physics.

Along with this concentration you will also need to take the NES test in General Science along with your subject area.