

## Mission of Kansas State University

*The mission of Kansas State University is to foster excellent teaching, research, and service that develop a highly skilled and educated citizenry necessary to advancing the well-being of Kansas, the nation, and the international community. The university embraces diversity, encourages engagement and is committed to the discovery of knowledge, the education of undergraduate and graduate students, and improvement in the quality of life and standard of living of those we serve.*

Kansas State University is a comprehensive, research, land-grant institution serving students and the people of Kansas, the nation, and the world. Since its founding in 1863, the university has evolved into a modern institution of higher education, committed to quality programs, and responsive to a rapidly changing world and the aspirations of an increasingly diverse society. Together with other major comprehensive universities, K-State shares responsibilities for developing human potential, expanding knowledge, enriching cultural expression, and extending its expertise to individuals, business, education, and government. These responsibilities are addressed through an array of undergraduate and graduate degree programs, research and creative activities, and outreach and public service programs. In addition, its land-grant mandate, based on federal and state legislation, establishes a focus to its instructional, research, and extension activities which is unique among the Regents' institutions.

Through quality teaching, the university is committed to provide all students with opportunities to develop the knowledge, understanding, and skills characteristic of an educated person. It is also pledged to prepare students for successful employment or advanced studies through a variety of disciplinary and professional degree programs. To meet these intentions, the institution dedicates itself to providing academic and extracurricular learning experiences which promote and value both excellence and cultural diversity. K-State prepares its students to be informed, productive, and responsible citizens who actively participate in advancing cultural, educational, economic, scientific, and socio-political undertakings.

Research and other creative endeavors comprise an essential component of K-State's mission. All faculty members contribute to the discovery and dissemination of new knowledge, applications and products. These efforts, supported by public and private resources, are conducted in an atmosphere of open inquiry and academic freedom. Basic to the pursuit of this mission is the university's commitment to broad-based programs in graduate education at both the master's and doctoral levels.

Faculty, staff, and administrators share their expertise through service to the university and disciplinary organizations via outreach, engagement and extension-related activities. Their work provides support to numerous projects related to the goals, missions or aspirations of the departments, colleges of the university, and to the members of the professional community. Through outreach and engagement initiatives, partnerships are established with various stakeholders to translate knowledge and basic research into applications that address public needs. These service activities are integrally related to the land-grant mission.

For more information:  
[k-state.edu/about/mission.html](http://k-state.edu/about/mission.html)

## Mission of the Professional Education Unit

The professional education unit at Kansas State University is committed to a vision of preparing educators to be knowledgeable, ethical, caring decision makers for a diverse and changing world through a mission characterized by:

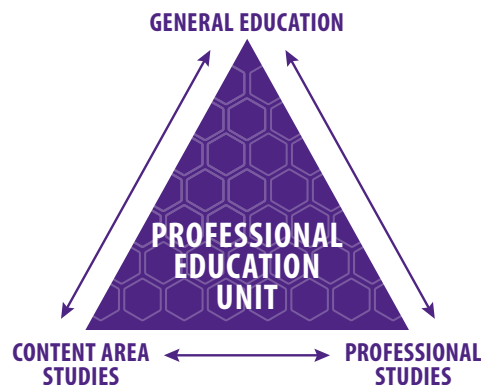
- delivery of exemplary instruction to students at the undergraduate and graduate levels;
- production, interpretation, and dissemination of sound and useful research and scholarship;
- leadership, collaboration, and service within the profession; and
- promotion, understanding, and celebration of diversity.

The professional education unit provides professional studies and general education as well as content area studies in collaboration with other programs across campus. Together, these studies offer a coherently structured set of courses and experiences at the undergraduate and graduate levels for professional education.

**General Education** includes courses and experiences wherein students develop theoretical and practical knowledge and understandings.

**Content Area Studies** courses and experiences provide students opportunities to master the structure, skills, concepts, ideas, values, facts, and methods of inquiry that constitute their subject matter fields of specialization.

**Professional Studies** courses and clinical, field-based experiences ensure that students understand and apply appropriate strategies for meeting individual learning needs in the educational environment.



## Conceptual Framework for the Preparation of Professional Educators

The Conceptual Framework (CF) for Kansas State University's professional education unit serves as a guide for fulfilling its vision of preparing educators to be knowledgeable, ethical, caring decision makers for a diverse and changing world. This vision, expressed as a theme for all professional education programs, is closely aligned with the mission of both the institution and the unit. The CF has been adopted by the faculty in the professional education unit. The CF reflects national, state, and professional standards, is grounded in research, and is specifically linked to the Kansas State Department of Education professional education standards. Goals listed in course syllabi are aligned to the CF standards and dispositions. The professional education unit continues to review the CF to ensure the consistent and coherent delivery of both undergraduate and graduate programs in the unit.

A complete CF document is found at:  
[coe.k-state.edu/about/vision.html](http://coe.k-state.edu/about/vision.html)

For information concerning professional education programs at Kansas State University:

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Kansas State University  
Manhattan, KS 66506-5301  
(785) 532-5525  
Fax (785) 532-7304  
[coe.k-state.edu](http://coe.k-state.edu)

### Notice of Nondiscrimination

Kansas State University prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, sex (including sexual harassment and sexual violence), sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, age, ancestry, disability, genetic information, military status, or veteran status, in the University's programs and activities as required by applicable laws and regulations. The person designated with responsibility for coordination of compliance efforts and receipt of inquiries concerning nondiscrimination policies is the University's Title IX Coordinator: the Director of the Office of Institutional Equity, [equity@k-state.edu](mailto:equity@k-state.edu), 103 Edwards Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas 66506-4801, 785-532-6220. The campus ADA Coordinator is the Director of Employee Relations, [charlott@k-state.edu](mailto:charlott@k-state.edu), who may be reached at 103 Edwards Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas 66506-4801, 785-532-6277.

# Conceptual Framework

## for the Preparation of Professional Educators



Preparing educators to be knowledgeable, ethical, caring decision makers for a diverse and changing world

Accredited by the  
Kansas State Board of Education and the  
National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education

**KANSAS STATE**  
UNIVERSITY

College of Education