**Requirements**

1) Interest in working with elementary school children, in a Catholic School, and receiving a Professional Educator License (PEL) with an elementary endorsement (grades 1-6) allowing you to teach self-contained grades 1-6. LU CHOICE teachers can teach in grades 1-8. Those teaching 7\textsuperscript{th} or 8\textsuperscript{th} grade must also teach 6\textsuperscript{th} grade in order to meet licensing requirements.

2) Willingness to participate in a spiritual formation program.

3) Commitment of 2 years

4) Admitance into the Graduate MED program at Loyola University Chicago.

5) The requirements listed below are to be met after being admitted to the graduate program. It is not necessary to complete these at the time of application.

⭐ Participants must meet the undergraduate requirements for Illinois state certification in elementary education. If a participant is lacking in an area, he/she will have to take (an) additional course(s) at the participant’s expense. This is completed during the 2\textsuperscript{nd} summer of the program. For a list of these requirements please see out [handbook P. 6-7](#).

⭐ Participants are not required to take the GRE or Praxis exams.
Instructions

Application Instructions

Step one: Complete the Graduate School Application
- Persons interested in being considered for the LU CHOICE program must complete the graduate school application for the Elementary Education MED. This is completed online and can be found at. https://gpem.luc.edu/apply/

Most of the information needed by LU CHOICE will be obtained from your Loyola University Chicago Graduate School application. Therefore, the LUC graduate application must be completed first, and acceptance into the graduate program verified when applying to LU CHOICE.

However, the LU CHOICE office needs one additional item. Email is the preferred method of submission. (see step 2 below).

**In order to be interviewed for the LU CHOICE program you must have been accepted into the graduate program.**

Step Two: Essay to be submitted for the LU CHOICE Program.

Please write an essay of one to three pages.

Use the questions below to assist you in writing your LU CHOICE Essay.

Describe your motivations to be an elementary school teacher. Include the following in your answer:

- What experiences have you had with elementary-aged children?
- Have you participated in teaching related activities? (Coaching, mentoring, tutoring, teacher assistant, teaching)
- Describe experiences you may have had that have influenced you to pursue teaching in a Catholic school as part of the LU CHOICE program.
- Describe your life experiences which have influenced your view of social justice and why social justice is a vital aspect of preparing to teach in Catholic Schools.

Review the Loyola University Chicago and Greeley Center mission statements.
- How do your personal values and beliefs relate to the mission of Loyola University Chicago and the Greeley Center?

Loyola University Chicago Mission
We are Chicago’s Jesuit, Catholic University-a diverse community seeking God in all things and working to expand knowledge in the service of humanity through learning, justice and faith.
Andrew M. Greeley Center for Catholic Education Mission
As a Jesuit Center, we work to expand faith, justice, and learning to advance the vital ministry of Catholic education.

Essay Submission Instructions:
The essay must be received by February 13.
Essay must be emailed to Lee Hubbell, lhubbel@luc.edu

Interview Anticipation Instructions
- Interview Dates: March 18.
- Notification of acceptance usually begins shortly after interviews.
- In order to be interviewed for the LU CHOICE program you must have received notification of acceptance into the Graduate MED program.

Program Start
- Summer school starts on Monday, June 19.

Information Session: March 2

Topic: LU CHOICE Info Session
Time: Mar 2, 2023 05:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting
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Join by H.323
162.255.37.11 (US West)
Interview Information: March 18

Topic: LU CHOICE Interview
Time: Mar 18, 2023 08:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting
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