SUPPORT AGENCIES

STUDENTS’ LOAN BUREAU

Students who need financial assistance are advised to apply to the Students’ Loan Bureau for a loan. Forms are available at www.slbja.com.

MONTEGO BAY CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT UNION

The MBCCU offers student loans at very competitive interest rates. Collateral is needed in order to access these loans. For further information, kindly visit them at 6 Sam Sharpe Square, Montego Bay or call them at 952-1190-2, 940-7710 or 952-7047.

JAMVAT

The Jamaica Values and Attitudes Project for Tertiary Students, JAMVAT, is an effort to assist students, who qualify for admission but are unable to finance their tertiary education. The programme provides the opportunity for students to participate in the development of the nation’s social capital through their contribution of 200 hours of public service. In response, the government undertakes 30% of the student’s tuition cost. Applications are accepted between January and April of the year of application.

NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE (NYS)

The National Youth Service provides financial assistance to its participants who are accepted in Tertiary Institutions. Application for this support should be made to the NYS.

THE CHASE FUND

Early Childhood students can access a scholarship through the CHASE Fund. Application forms are available at the Early Childhood Unit, Regional Offices of the Ministry of Education and the CHASE website www.chase.org.jm. Completed application forms along with all other documents requested must be sent to the Early Childhood Department at the Regional Offices or to Early Childhood Unit, Caenwood Complex, 37 Arnold Road, Kingston, 5.

APPLICATION REMINDER

Applicants will be required to submit along with the completed application form:

- Two recent passport-size photographs certified & dated by a J.P. or a Minister of Religion,
- Original certificate(s) of examinations passed
- Birth Certificate, Marriage Certificate (if applicable)
- Legible photocopies of all certificates
- Two recent recommendations; one from the last school you attended and the other either from your employer, a Justice of the Peace in your community or your Minister of Religion indicating your readiness to be a teacher.

NB. All certificates must be the originals. Preliminary examination results are not acceptable.
INTRODUCTION

The Sam Sharpe Teachers’ College, built by the Government of Jamaica under the World Bank II programme, began operations on September 29, 1975 when it admitted its first 150 students from across Jamaica. Based on the dynamic combination of activities provided, the population presently boasts approximately 600 students. The college now offers the Bachelor in Education degree awarded by the University of the West Indies.

THE MISSION STATEMENT

Sam Sharpe Teachers’ College is committed to providing a consistently high standard of training to produce life-long learning professionals dedicated to rendering altruistic service and to be formidable change agents in the global environment. These professionals will be:

- Committed individuals empowered with the relevant knowledge, skills, values, attitudes and pedagogy to be effective in their various fields;
- Self-directed and able to cope with the challenges concomitant with national and global trends;
- Devoted to enhancing the total development of their students;
- Empowered to be nurturers of the human and natural resources that would promote sustainable development.

OUR VISION

To be recognized as the premier institution of higher learning, offering superior training and education to young professionals, in our commitment to satisfying the needs and aspirations of this dynamic society through research, service and the demonstration of excellence.


The College’s motto, created by the pioneer staff and students in 1975, undergirds all the programmes and activities that we pursue and in which we engage. We are firmly committed to ensuring that our staff and students are empowered to be committed, dedicated professionals who endeavour to serve the community, nation and the global society with distinction.

This booklet contains information about the programmes offered at the College.

ACCOMMODATION

Limited residential accommodation is available to students pursuing the Full-time Bachelor of Education programme. This is done through an application process. Students should be prepared to live off campus at some time during the programme.

ATTENDANCE AT LECTURES & PARTICIPATION IN COLLEGE ACTIVITIES

Attendance at lectures is compulsory and students are required to be on time for their classes and to be present at all College activities.

EXAMINATIONS

For the Full Time Programme, the academic year is divided into two (2) semesters (August to December and January to May) and for the part time study there are three (3) semesters, the third being summer (June to July). At the end of each semester/year, students sit the examinations of the Teachers Colleges of Jamaica. Classes for supplemental examinations are usually held during the summer between June and July. Students are required to satisfy the specified requirements before being promoted.

MAINTENANCE OF STANDARDS

In order for a student to continue to hold a place in the College, satisfactory standards must be maintained in coursework, examinations and personal deportment and conduct. The ‘Students’ Hand Book’ outlines the rules of the College. Each student must not only read but keep this for quick reference. Students should also make themselves very familiar with the relevant Teachers’ College regulations and the governing boards offering other programmes.

FINANCING ONE’S TRAINING

FINANCE & COST SHARING

While the Government of Jamaica supports the College through its Annual Budget, students are expected to pay a Cost Sharing fee at the beginning of each academic year. The Cost Sharing fees will be announced to students who have been accepted to pursue the course and should be paid prior to the commencement of that Academic Year. Students must provide their own textbooks, stationery and other materials required for each course.

Teaching Practice (including Practicum) is an essential element of the College’s programme and involves the making and use of instructional aids of various types and dimensions. It should be understood that students are responsible for finding their own materials for use in all teaching programmes and practical activities.
**EVENING DIVISION / PART-TIME**

Persons wishing to complete the Bachelor in Education programme on a part-time basis may apply to the Evening College. This is a self-supporting programme with no Government subsidy. Therefore, all costs are borne by the students. Early Childhood, Primary Education and Mathematics & Science are the programmes offered.

Classes are held Mondays to Thursdays from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. with full time summer sessions lasting 4 weeks each.

**THE APPLICATION PROCESS**

Application to enter the respective programmes should be done using the specified form and must be accompanied by the required processing fees. Short listed applicants will go through the selection processes, which include an aptitude test to indicate their potential for being a teacher, and an interview. Preference will be given to persons with evidence of work/achievement in human development.

**REGISTRATION**

All students must be registered into Programme/courses before the start of each school year/semester.

**INFORMATION ABOUT COLLEGE LIFE**

**EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Students are required to be actively involved in at least one community project that is organised or approved by the College, and at least one Club or Society. Students may join any of the following: Circle K, Environmental Club, Four H (4H), University and Colleges Christian Fellowship (UCCF), Advent Fellowship, Drama, Heritage Club, Dance, Sign Language, Peer Counselling, Young Jamaica Ensemble of Sam Sharpe Teachers’ College, Music Club, College Choir/Chamber Singers, College Instrumental Ensemble/Concert Band.

**MATRICULATION**

To be admitted to the College for the Bachelor in Education programme, the minimum requirements are:-

- Five (5) CXC/CSEC subjects including Mathematics and English Language at General Proficiency Levels I, II General Level III (effective June 1998).

*For the purpose of equivalencies, CXC Basic I, GCE O’Level at grades A, B, or C, SSC National Assessment Level 5 or 4, ULCI General 2 are deemed equivalent to CXC subjects General I or II.*

**NB.** Preference will be given to applicants with more than five passes inclusive of English Language and Mathematics. Specific subjects are required for all programmes. Persons applying to the Special Education, Early Childhood and Primary Programmes must have passes in a Physical Science subject (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Integrated Science, Human & Social Biology etc) AND a Social Science subject (History, Geography, Social Studies, Sociology, Religious Education, etc)

**Advanced Credit Degree Programme:** Applicants MUST have a diploma in their area of specialization.

**BACHELOR IN EDUCATION PROGRAMMES**

**PRIMARY EDUCATION:** This is that group of courses and subjects which prepares students to teach pupils between the ages of 6-12 years, that is, from grades 1-6. In order to be certified as a primary teacher, a student will be required to complete successfully – courses in Education, Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, Religious Education, Art & Craft, Music and Physical Education, Practicum and Personal Development.

**Entry Requirements:** Five (5) CXC/CSEC subjects including Mathematics, English Language, a Social Science subject AND a Physical Science subject and one (1) other subject at General Proficiency Levels I, II, III (effective June 1998).

**EARLY CHILDHOOD:** This Programme prepares students to teach children between 4 and 7 years (K-2). Recognizing the complex nature of the stages within the first 7 years of a child’s life, the programme has a strong focus on helping children develop physical, intellectual and social skills through play and the aesthetics. The programme allows one to understand a child’s development. Students will be prepared through field work to interact with parents and the community to help them understand the strong link between parent, community, child and school. Creativity, flexibility and self-motivation are hallmarks of this programme.
**Entry Requirements:** Five (5) CXC/CSEC subjects including Mathematics, English Language, a Social Science subject AND a Physical Science subject and one (1) other subject at General Proficiency Levels I, II, III (effective June 1998).

**SPECIAL EDUCATION:** This programme offers an opportunity for persons to understand and work with children with special needs both in the mainstream of schools and at institutions dedicated to persons with exceptionalities. Student-teachers may specialize in that group of courses and subjects which prepare them to teach individuals in one of the following: Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Mild Disabilities or Multiple & Severe Disabilities.

Education of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing entails training courses such as Sign Language and Introduction to Audiology. Mild Disabilities focuses on students who are characterized in one of 3 areas: Mild Mental Retardation, Learning Disabilities and Mild Behavioural Disorders. Multiple & Severe Disabilities concentrates on students with severe physical / intellectual disabilities and/or those with more than one disability.

**SCHOOL COUNSELLING:** The College and the Nation recognize the diverse needs of students. The Guidance Counsellor therefore becomes a significant contributor in the life of a school, supporting by guiding and/or counselling children, staff and parents on a variety of issues, concerns and challenges that may influence how well a child succeeds. Courses include: Career Guidance, Counselling Techniques, Parenting and Guiding Behaviour.

This programme seeks to engage mature and committed persons to be trained in areas of school counseling which includes career education, human relationships and mentoring. Persons will be required to do short periods of field work in a number of agencies including the Family Court, Places of Safety and Children’s Homes as well as in schools. Guidance Counsellors work across the education system from Early Childhood to Tertiary. Counsellors may also find employment in the Private Sector, in Health related institutions as well as the Social Services Departments of the Government.

**Entry Requirements:** Five (5) CXC/CSEC subjects including Mathematics, English Language, Social Studies, Human and Social Biology/Biology and one (1) other subject at General Proficiency Levels I, II, III (effective June 1998).

**SECONDARY EDUCATION PROGRAMME**

The college trains persons interested in teaching at the Secondary Level in the following special areas:

**SPANISH:** This programme will prepare students to teach Spanish at the Secondary level. Students must be strong in speaking, reading and writing the Language. While the focus will be on courses in Spanish (major), students will be able to minor in another subject area.

**Entry Requirements:** Five (5) CXC/CSEC subjects including English Language and Spanish at General Proficiency Levels I or II, Mathematics, a Social Science subject OR a Physical Science subject and one (1) other subject at General Proficiency Levels I, II, III (effective June 1998).

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE:** This programme will prepare students to teach English Language and Literature at the Secondary level. Students must have strong communication skills with a deep interest in reading and writing. The course introduces students to the study of Language in the Caribbean in particular the Jamaican Language. Courses also include prose, poetry and drama in English.

**Entry Requirements:** Five (5) CXC/CSEC subjects including English Language and English Literature at General Proficiency Levels I or II, Mathematics, a Physical Science subject OR a Social Science subject and one (1) other subject at General Proficiency Levels I, II, III (effective June 1998).

**MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE:** This programme will prepare students to teach Mathematics and Integrated Science at the secondary level.

**Entry Requirements:** Five (5) CXC/CSEC subjects including Mathematics and a Lab Science subject (Chemistry, Physics or Biology) at General Proficiency Levels I or II, English Language and two (2) other subjects at General Proficiency Levels I, II, III (effective June 1998).

**ADVANCED CREDIT DEGREE IN EDUCATION**

Persons who hold a diploma in education may apply to upgrade to the degree in education. Such individuals should request that their transcripts be sent to the College for evaluation. The duration of this programme is approximately five semesters completed on a part time basis. This degree is offered in the following areas: Primary Education, Early Childhood Education, School Counselling, Special Education and Secondary Spanish.