TUteach Frequently Asked Questions

What is TUteach?
TUteach programming provides students with an extensive background in the STEM sciences and content knowledge in their area of study. Students also receive formal, pedagogical training that positions them to attain Level I teacher certification in Pennsylvania. The program is supported by experienced leadership in the STEM sciences, mastery of TUteach curricula and faculty that are seasoned in both STEM and Teacher Education.

Who is TUteach?
TUteach students are matriculating in eight (8) STEM majors within the College of Science & Technology. TUteach students get a solid foundation in their chosen STEM discipline and firsthand teaching experience in his/her first semester. Along with a rigorous balance of STEM and Education coursework, TUteach students enhance their teaching endeavors with service to the Philadelphia community. In alignment with pre-professionalized certification training, TUteach students adhere to high standards as they matriculate to degree completion.

TUteach is an alternative route Pennsylvania Teacher Certification. How does it work?
TUteach is Pennsylvania (state) recognized alternative route to teacher certification. TUteach curriculum requirements consist of STEM and Education coursework that result in an earned Bachelor of Science (BS) degree. While gaining Level I Teacher certification is not a graduation requirement, most of our students will have taken the Praxis II certification test for her/his major prior to degree completion.

For my STEM major, how do I fit in my education course requirements?
At Temple University, a minimum 123 completed credits (124 credits for TUteach students) is a graduation requirement. Ninety (90) of these credits are plugged into major and university (Gen Ed) course requirements.   The education courses are "built" into the major, as the remaining credits (33-34) credits come from these courses.

Must I be a declared TUteach major prior to taking SCTC 1389?
No! While SCTC 1389 is the first required course for TUteach majors, many students have "discovered" teaching by taking the course for elective credits.   As the students gain field teaching experience, many have decided to declare the major, and (as noted) the course would satisfy the major requirement.

How do I achieve TUteach Candidacy?
TUteach Candidacy is triggered by student enrollment in MGSE 2189. A spring only course, students are up for Candidacy upon completing specific major and university course requirements. The TUteach Candidacy application (process) includes a mandatory Faculty Advising appointment. The appointment overviews program requirements, attainment of TUteach Candidacy and an Academic Plan that reflects a pathway to degree completion.

Can I follow a Pre-Health track as a TUteach Major and <u>not</u> extend my time to degree completion?
Yes! Many of our CST students start his/her matriculation status either as Undeclared, or (more common) following a Pre-pharmacy track. Further many CST declared majors are also following a Pre-Health track. A TUteach major is no different to Major decision-making and its impact on matriculation to degree completion.

I have earned my TUteach degree. Will that restrict my professional/career options to teaching?
No! In fact, it is quite the opposite. The TUteach degree has opened doors to a myriad of professional careers. This is evidenced by the success of our TUteach graduates, which dates back to the inception of the program in 2008. Along with securing certified teaching assignments in the State of Pennsylvania, many of our students have opted to secure positions in the health-related professions, private industry and graduate school.

I am an Honors student. Are there any advantages to pursuing my STEM major "with teaching?"
What is attractive with the TUteach major is it parallels pre-health programming, as there are higher academic and/or GPA commitment standards to pre-health and professional certification programming.

What is the difference between a Certified and Non-Certified Track to Degree Completion?
TUteach degree programming is structured for students to gain her/his Pennsylvania (state) Level I teaching certificate. Yet earning certification is not a graduation requirement. Rather the degree path prepares students for many options, and students may opt for a non-certification path late in his/her matriculation and prior to the Student Teaching (field) experience. A myriad of options stem from a culminating STEM-Education experience. It is the communicable skills that are developed through teaching constructs that are highly desired by employers. To this end choosing a non-certification route does not close the doors to professional opportunity.