Advising Information Sheet for MT Secondary Science

So you want be a science teacher?

To teach in VA, you need a major in biology, chemistry, physics, environmental science, geology or an engineering area and EXTRA coursework for your area of endorsement. Endorsement for teaching secondary science can only be obtained for biology, chemistry, earth science, or physics. Add-on endorsements in any science area can be obtained with appropriate coursework in that content area.

Specific Science Content Area Requirements per VDOE

Biology – Completed a major in biology or 32 semester hours in biology, including genetics/molecular biology, botany, zoology, anatomy/physiology, ecology and other preparation consistent with the competencies for the endorsement or earned an endorsement in another science discipline and at least 18 credits in biology, including preparation in each of the following areas: genetics/molecular biology, botany, zoology, anatomy/physiology and ecology. One undergraduate earth science course.

Chemistry - Completed a major in chemistry or 32 semester hours in chemistry, including inorganic chemistry, organic chemistry, physical chemistry, and analytical chemistry and other preparation consistent with the competencies required for the endorsement or earned an endorsement in another science discipline and at least 18 credits in chemistry, including preparation in each of the following areas: inorganic chemistry, organic chemistry and analytical chemistry. One undergraduate earth science course.

Earth Science - Completed a major in geology or environmental science/studies with at least one course in each of the following: oceanography, meteorology and astronomy, and a course in geology for environmental science majors, or 32 semester hours in Earth Sciences, including geology (18 semester hours), oceanography, meteorology and astronomy and other preparation consistent with the competencies required for the endorsement; or earned an endorsement in another science discipline and at least 18 credits in Earth sciences, including preparation in each of the following areas: geology, oceanography, meteorology or astronomy.

Physics – Completed a major in physics or 32 semester hours in physics, including mechanics, electricity and magnetism, and optics and other preparation consistent with the competencies required for the endorsement; or earned an endorsement in another science discipline and at least 18 credits in physics, including preparation in each of the following areas: mechanics, electricity and magnetism and optics. One undergraduate earth science course.

Modified January 2015