

Early Childhood Education

Master's Program: Initial Licensure

Program Overview

Degree: Master of Arts in Early Childhood Education

Certifications earned:

- Illinois Professional Educator License (PEL)
 - Early Childhood Endorsement, Birth to Grade 2
 - Early Childhood Special Education Approval Endorsement, PreK
- Illinois Gateways Credentials:
 - Early Childhood (ECE), level 6
 - Infant Toddler (ITC), level 3

Intended Audience: Candidates with a bachelor's degree who do not have a teaching license and are seeking licensure - Professional Educator License (PEL), Birth to Grade 2.

Professional Education Coursework (14 courses)

1. EDEC6099: Developmentally Appropriate Practices in Early Childhood Education (3)
2. EDEC6550: Family, Community, and Culture (3)
3. EDEC6551: Field Experience 1 - Infants & Toddlers (1)*
4. EDEC6560: Science and Social Studies Methods, CRTL & Exceptional Learners (3)
5. EDEC6561: Field Experience 2 - Preprimary Grades (1)*
6. EDEC6570: Literacy Methods in Early Childhood Education (3)
7. EDEC6571: Field Experience 3 - Literacy in Primary Grades (1)*
8. EDEC6580: Math Methods in Early Childhood Education (3)
9. EDEC6581: Field Experience 4 - Math in Primary Grades (1)*
10. EDUC7410: Classroom Management and Responsive Learning Environments (2)
11. EDUC7440: Applied Educational Psychology (3)
12. EDEC7570: Assessment & Differentiated Instruction in Early Childhood (3)
13. EDEC8810: Research and Issues in Education I (3)
14. EDEC8999: Student Teaching in Early Childhood Education (9)

Total Program Credit Hours: 39

Total Program Semesters: 5 (2 years)

Course Offerings and Info

Time: evenings (except field experiences)

Modality: online synchronous (at a scheduled time), online asynchronous, face-to-face (prereqs & field exp)

Field Experiences*: There are opportunities for job-embedded field experiences for the 4 clinical field experience courses and student teaching. Candidates may be eligible if the criteria for approved schools and for each course are met, as well as the requirements for job-embedded field experiences. Forms must be completed by the given date or candidates may not be able to do job-embedded field experiences.

Program Start: fall start only

Course Schedule: ECE program courses are only offered once a year.

Some courses have prerequisites that are required to be followed (i.e. courses must be taken in order).

Prerequisite Coursework (5 courses, 15 hours)

- EDUC2310: Foundations of Education (3)
- EDUC2330: Educational Psychology I - Child Growth and Development (3)
- SPED6101: Survey of Students with Exceptionalities (3)
- EDCP6101: Introduction to Educational Technology (3)
- ENGL2131/6080: Literature for Children and Adolescents (3)

-Equivalent courses can be transferred.