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EST 1969

Early Childhood Endorsement or Early Childhood Special Education Approval

Candidates who hold an Illinois Professional Educator License (PEL) and seek a subsequent endorsement (*certificate only program*).

EC SPED Approval: Candidates must hold a PEL and have an endorsement in Early Childhood Education.

Due to the ongoing teacher shortage, the current generation of children are at risk of receiving inadequate guidance that may impact their educational development. Licensed teachers can earn an advanced certificate to add a subsequent endorsement to their Professional Educator License (PEL). GSU offers coursework for teachers to earn endorsements in the early childhood field: Early Childhood (EC) Endorsement or Early Childhood Special Education (SPED) Approval.

Program Highlights

- Opportunities for job-embedded clinical field experiences and student teaching for candidates who work in an approved early childhood setting (only applies to candidates in the EC Endorsement program)
- Evening and online classes to accommodate candidates in the workforce

Certifications Earned

Early Childhood

- Endorsement: Early Childhood (Birth to Grade 2)
- Illinois Gateways to Opportunity credentials:
 - Early Childhood, Levels 2-5
 - Infant Toddler, Levels 2-3

EC Special Education Approval

- Early Childhood Special Education Approval (PreK)

Class Delivery

- Time: evening
- Modality: online synchronous (*field experience courses are in-person at centers/schools - for the ECE Endorsement only*)

Contact

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POST-BAC CERTIFICATES IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

How to Apply

Visit the Graduate Admissions webpage for information at:

govst.edu/Admissions/Student_Type/Graduate_Admissions/

Ready to apply? Visit our Application Information webpage at: apply.govst.edu/apply

Program Requirements

After meeting the university admission requirements, students must meet the following additional requirements to be admitted to and continue in the Early Childhood Education program:

- must have a valid Professional Educator License (PEL)
- must have a cumulative G.P.A. of 2.75 or higher on a 4.0 scale in all undergraduate work
- must earn a grade of "B-" or better in all teacher education coursework at GSU
- **EC SPED Approval only:** must have an endorsement in Early Childhood Education

Program Coursework

Early Childhood Endorsement

- EDEC 6099: Developmentally Appropriate Practices in Early Childhood Education (4)
- EDEC 6550: Family, Community, and Culture (3)
- EDEC 6551: Field Experience 1-Infants, Toddlers, and Families (1)
- EDEC 6560: Curriculum, Literacy, & Exceptional Learners in Preprimary Grades (3)
- EDEC 6561: Field Experience 2: Preprimary (1)
- EDEC 6570: Literacy in Early Childhood Education (3)
- EDEC 6571: Field Experience 3: Literacy in Primary Grades (1)
- EDEC 7570: Assessment & Differentiated Instruction in Early Childhood (3)

To earn this endorsement, candidates must pass the ILTS Early Childhood Content Exam.

Additional Endorsement

Candidates wishing to apply for the optional EC Special Education Approval that can be placed on an ISBE teaching license (PEL) must complete the additional courses below:

- EDEC 8810: Research and Issues in Education (3)
- SPED 6101: Survey of Students with Exceptionalities

Early Childhood SPED Approval

- EDEC 6550: Family, Community, and Culture (3)
- EDEC 6560: Curriculum, Literacy, & Exceptional Learners in Preprimary Grades (3)
- EDEC 6570: Literacy in Early Childhood Education (3)
- EDEC 7570: Assessment & Differentiated Instruction in Early Childhood (3)
- EDEC 8810: Research and Issues in Education (3)
- SPED 6101: Survey of Students with Exceptionalities (3)

More Information

View additional information on the Early Childhood Education webpage at:
govst.edu/earlychildhoodeducation/

Scan the QR codes to learn more about these endorsements.



EC Endorsement



EC SPED Approval



Visit govst.edu/earlychildhoodeducation for more information.