

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION, MA

The Early Childhood program is designed for students who wish to earn an Illinois teaching license to work with children from birth through grade two. The Illinois Early Childhood Teaching license requirements and the Early Childhood Special Education Approval are integrated within the program. The program is ideal for students who do not have an undergraduate major in education but aspire to transform schools and classrooms to pursue social justice.

Students can add one or more of the following endorsements to their teaching license with careful planning: Bilingual/ESL education, Elementary education, Special education (LBS 1). Please consult with a Department of Education advisor for more information.

Admission

Admission to the program requires a BA degree in any academic area with a grade point average of 2.7 on a 4.0 scale, at least 120 credit hours of undergraduate courses from an accredited college or university.

At the time of admission, an advisor reviews transcripts and evaluates all course work completed at other colleges or universities. Advising plans are developed and any deficiencies related to licensure requirements are noted. If additional course work is needed, the student's advisor will indicate the course work needed on an advising plan. Students must confer with their assigned advisors before enrolling in the program and during each advising period to ensure that all requirements are being successfully completed.

Requirements

To be awarded the MA in Early Childhood Education, students must successfully complete a 48 semester hour program of study. Students must maintain an overall GPA of at least a 3.0 while enrolled in the education program. Should a student fall below a 3.0 GPA, the program's faculty will review the student's eligibility to continue moving forward in the licensure program.

Students, one semester prior to their student teaching, must submit proof of passing the appropriate Early Childhood Education content exam that meets the state's criterion.

Student Teaching must be passed with a minimum C or higher.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
EDUC 402	CHILD & ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT, LEARNING AND MOTIVATION	3
SPED 419	EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN & YOUTH	3
EDUC 421	INTEGRATED, HEALTH, ARTS, AND PE CURRICULUM	3
ELED 441	METHODS OF TEACHING MATHEMATICS IN THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	3
ECHD 403	INDIVIDUALIZED COACHING AND FIELD EXPERIENCES 1	1
ECHD 405	ASSESSMENT IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION	3

ECHD 410	CHILD, FAMILY, COMMUNITY AND PHILOSOPHY OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION	3
ECHD 428	INDIVIDUALIZED COACHING & FIELD EXPERIENCE 2	1
ECHD 434	LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT	3
ECHD 436	STRATEGIES AND MATERIALS FOR TEACHING EMERGENT LITERACY & SOCIAL STUDIES: PRE-KINDERGARTEN	3
ECHD 437	LITERACY AND SOCIAL STUDIES IN ECHD: PRIMARY GRADES	3
ECHD 438	EARLY CHILDHOOD CURRICULUM & ASSESSMENT: PRESCHOOL	3
ECHD 439	MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION	3
ECHD 448	IND. COACHING & FIELD EXP. 3	1
ECHD 470	INFANT AND TODDLER CURRICULUM & ASSESSMENT: TEACHING & LEARNING	3
ECHD 474	STUDENT TEACHING SEMINAR: EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION	6
ECHD 482	EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION METHODS	3
Total Credit Hours		48

Field Experience & Student Teaching

Pedagogical and real-world training is at the center of graduate degree coursework. Consequently, all Early Childhood Education majors are required to enroll in one credit hour of "Individualized Coaching and Field Experiences" courses in each of three semesters prior to student teaching. Each field experience course requires 50 hours in a classroom setting.

In their Individualized Coaching courses, students will complete the field experiences needed to develop professional knowledge, skills, and dispositions in alignment with Roosevelt's social justice mission. As students progress from one individualized coaching course to another, they will take on tasks and responsibilities that are increasingly complex and challenging. These experiences will prepare students for success in student teaching experiences that culminate in the Early Childhood major and the awarding of an Illinois Professional Educator License

Placement in student teaching sites is planned with consideration of professional standards and partnership schools and agencies. Pre-primary and Primary student teaching placements are open only to students who have successfully completed the appropriate general education and professional education courses and early childhood content test, and other Department of Education student teaching requirements. Placements in sites with diverse student populations are required. Students must submit a formal application two semesters prior to the semester in which they plan to do their student teaching. Applicants are expected to be in good academic standing and must provide evidence of competency with regard to professional dispositions, including the passage of a criminal background check. Students should consult regularly with their advisor about the specific requirements for licensure and student teaching in Illinois.

In addition to the requirements outlined in this academic catalog, students in Early Childhood Education program are obligated to become familiar with, and comply with, all requirements outlined in the Initial Licensure Field experience & Student Teaching Handbook in order to

receive a passing grade for field experience and student teaching courses proceeding to licensure. Students enrolled in field experience and student teaching courses will receive the handbook from the Director of Field Placement.

Licensure requirements

Students who complete the Early Childhood program earn a State of Illinois Professional Education License, with an early childhood endorsement and early childhood special education approval, which will allow teaching special needs pre-kindergarten only. With careful planning, students can add on an additional endorsement in Bilingual/ESL education, Elementary Education, and Special Education (LBS1).

In order to qualify for Roosevelt University's recommendation for the Illinois teaching license and early childhood endorsement, students must meet all general education requirements that are in effect at the time of their application.

Students must consult with their education advisor to determine which general education courses are acceptable toward fulfillment of licensure requirements. Because requirements for licensure, graduation, and continuing enrollment are subject to change, graduate students must consult frequently with their education advisors. The advising plan developed at program admission provides the most up-to-date and authoritative information with respect to all program and licensure requirements.

Students, one semester prior to their student teaching, must submit proof of passing the Early Childhood Education content exam that meets the state's criterion and have a minimum 3.0 GPA in all graduate courses. All courses must be passed with grades of C or higher and a minimum C or higher in Student Teaching. Please contact the Department of Education for more information regarding the Early Childhood Education content exam criteria.

Before issuing a license, the Illinois State Board of Education also requires satisfactory scores on the Performance Assessment Portfolio (TPA).

Your degree map is a general guide suggesting courses to complete each term on the academic pathway to your degree. It is based on the most current scheduling information from your academic program. Your program's degree map is reviewed annually and updated as schedules change (although you retain the same course requirements as long as you are continuously enrolled in your degree program).

Always work closely with your academic advisor to understand curriculum requirements and scheduling, as each student's academic plan can look slightly different.

Year 1

Fall	Credit Spring Hours	Credit Summer Hours	Credit Hours
EDUC 402	3 ECHD 405	3 SPED 419	3
ECHD 434	3 ECHD 428	1	
ECHD 438	3 ECHD 436	3	
ECHD 470	3 ECHD 437	3	
ECHD 403	1 ELED 441	3	
	13	13	3

Year 2

Fall	Credit Spring Hours	Credit Hours
ECHD 439	3 ECHD 474	6
ECHD 482	3	
ECHD 448	1	
EDUC 421	3	
ECHD 410	3	
	13	6
Total Credit Hours 48		