

Early childhood education

Why choose **Early Childhood Education** at WSU?

- Placement rate is close to 100 percent—our graduates are considered the best and are highly recruited
- Low student to teacher ratio
- Accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE)
- National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) approved program
- Prekindergarten practica and student teaching in the Melba S. Lehner Children's School
- Diverse field placements and student teaching placements
- Preparation for teaching prekindergarten through third grade
- Collaboration with Teacher Education

What kinds of **degrees** are available?

Bachelor of Science (BS)

Bachelor of Art (BA)

Teacher Licensure

What **courses** are offered through **distance learning**?

CHF 1500 Human Development

CHF 2400 Family Relations

CHF 2500 Birth through Eight

CHF 2570 Middle Childhood

What are the **employment opportunities**?

When you complete a bachelor's degree in early childhood education, you will be prepared to teach in programs which serve children from infancy through eight years of age (pre-K through third grade). You will have the option of adding elementary education to your preparation and holding dual licensure (first through sixth grade). Most graduates take positions in public school kindergarten or primary classrooms.

What are the **starting salaries for graduates**?

The starting salary is \$35,000 plus with the potential of increasing with several years of service and additional education.

What will I **learn** in the program?

You will learn and apply principles and theories of educating young children through developmentally appropriate practices.

What **courses** will I take in this program?

The required courses and a typical schedule are listed inside this sheet.



Where can I **find out more** about the programs?

**Child and Family Studies Department Advisor
Jerry and Vickie Moyes College of Education
Weber State University**

Phone 1301 University Circle
Ogden, UT 84408-1301
801-626-6411
Fax 801-626-7427
e-mail childfamily@weber.edu
web weber.edu/coe/chfam.html

Advisor Darcy Gregg
801-626-6411
dgregg@weber.edu

Department Chair Dr. Chloe D. Merrill
801-626-7110
cmerrill@weber.edu

Secretary Michelle Checkman
McKay Education Building, 204
801-626-7151

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PROGRAM PREREQUISITE

Complete at least 40 credit hours of general education and relevant prerequisite courses and meet the teacher education admission and licensure requirements.

Minor/Concentration

Not required.

Grade Requirements

Maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher in all college work and achieve at least a "B-" grade in each professional education course to continue the program. A grade of "C" or better in each course (except professional education courses) is required.

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

CHF SS 1500 (Human Development) is prerequisite to most child and family studies courses and will fulfill a general education requirement. COMM HU 1020 (Principles of Public Speaking) or COMM 2110 (Intro to Interpersonal and Small Group Communication) may be taken to fulfill both a support course and general education requirement. A science class with a lab is a requirement for Teacher Education.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

For early childhood education majors, there are four (4) areas of course work that are required:

- (1) General education requirements
- (2) Support course requirements
- (3) Child and Family Studies requirements
- (4) Elementary teacher education requirements.

See details for each of these required areas below.

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

	BS	BA
Communications: ENGL 1010, ENGL 2010	6	6
Quantitative Literacy: Math QL 1050 (This course is a prerequisite for math 2010/2020)	4	4
American Institutions: POLS AI1100, HIST AI1700, ECON AI1740	3	3
Computer Literacy (Successful completion of approved proficiency exam or approved course(s) for credit.)	2-5	2-5
Humanities/Creative Arts: COMM HU1020 or COMM 2110 recommended	9	9
Social Sciences: CHF SS1500 recommended	6	6
Physical and Life Sciences: LS 1370, PS 1350, PS 1360 (select at least one of the three courses listed above. Students must have a lab science.)	9	9
Bachelor of Science Requirement *See box to right or WSU catalog for the requirement in science/math for the BS degree	6	
Bachelor of Arts Requirement Foreign Language		16
TOTAL	45-48	55-60

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR BS AND BA DEGREE

Meeting university general education science requirements may not meet elementary education science requirements. Following the suggested guidelines will assure that you meet both university general education and elementary education requirements.

Students pursuing a BS or BA degree must take 9 credit hours, with at least one (1) course from a life science group and at least one (1) course from a physical science group. One of the courses must be PS 1350 (Principles of Earth Science), PS 1360 (Principle of Physical Science), or LS 1370 (Principles of Life Science), or at least one science lab course.

Bachelor of Science (BS) Degree

The BS degree must include two (2) or more courses that emphasize scientific inquiry through either experimental, analytical or statistical methods. The courses must total a minimum of 6 credit hours over and above general education requirements. Click on documents.weber.edu/catalog/current/catgened.htm for a current list of courses that fulfill this requirement.

Bachelor of Arts (BA) Degree

The BA degree requires a minimum of 16 credit hours in a foreign language and demonstrated proficiency. See the WSU catalog or the foreign language department for further information.

SUPPORT COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Note: Support courses may be taken prior to admission to the Teacher Education program and must be taken prior to enrolling in corresponding methods courses.



SUPPORT COURSE REQUIREMENTS (25 CREDIT HOURS)

CHF	SS 1500	Human Development	3
COMM	HU 1020	Principles of Public Speaking	3
or COMM	HU 2110	Introduction to Interpersonal and Small Group Communication	3
MATH 2010		Mathematics for Elementary Teachers	3
MATH 2020		Mathematics for Elementary Teachers (prior to EDUC 4300)	3
EDUC 1010		Exploring Teaching (prior to Level 1)	3
ENGL 3300		Children's Literature	3
PEP 3630		Physical Education K-6 <i>(Encouraged to take any time after Level 1)</i>	3
HEALTH 4300		Health Ed in the Elementary School	2

Based on a technology proficiency assessment, students will complete one of the following prior to or concurrent with Level 1:

EDUC 3110		Instructional Technology	2
or EDUC 3370		Advanced Instructional Technology	2

SUPPORT COURSE ELECTIVES (2-4 CREDIT HOURS)

One of the following:

ART CA1030		Studio Art for the Non-Art Major	3
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(Allowed if not used for General Education requirement)

DANCE 3640		Creative Movement in Elem School	2
EDUC 3430		Creative Processes in Elem School	3
MUSIC 3824		Music for the Elementary Teacher	4
THEATR 4603		Creative Drama	3

CHILD AND FAMILY STUDIES REQUIREMENTS

Note: A grade of "C" or above is required in all CHF courses, and CHF SS1500 (Human Development) is a prerequisite to all child and family studies courses. These courses may be taken prior to admission to the Teacher Education Program.

CHF 2500		Development from Birth to 8 (prerequisite CHF SS 1500)	3
CHF 2600		Introduction to Early Childhood Education (prerequisite CHF SS 2500)	3
CHF 2610		Guidance Based on Developmental Theory (prerequisite CHF 1500) 2 hrs. lab per week	3
CHF 2620		Planning Creative Experiences for Young Children (prerequisites CHF SS1500) 3 hrs. lab per week	3
CHF 3640		Working with Parents	3
CHF 4710**		Advanced Planning and Guidance (taken concurrently with CHF 4720) (prerequisites CHF 2620 & 2610)	3
CHF 4720**		Student Teaching in the Melba Lehner Children's School and Seminar (taken concurrently with CHF 4710; and prior to taking EDUC 4840) (prerequisites CHF 2500, 2600, 2610, 2620)	6
CHF 4990A		Seminar in Child Development (taken concurrently with CHF 4710 and 4720)	<u>1</u>
		TOTAL	25

ELEMENTARY TEACHER EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS
Note: All 3000, 4000 level EDUC courses are open only to students who have been ADMITTED TO THE TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM. (See teacher education admission requirements.)

It is highly recommended that you concurrently register for all courses in a level. Additional information is available in the Teacher Education Advisement Center, Education Building, Room 230.

Professional Education Courses Required

Level 1 (Core)

Educ 3100	Instructional Planning and Assessment	3
Educ 3120	Reading Instruction in the Primary Grades (K-2)	3

Level 2 (Learners and Literacy)

Educ DV3200E	Foundations of Diversity: Culturally, Linguistically Responsive Teaching	3
Educ 3240	Reading Instruction in the Intermediate Grades (3-6)	3
Educ DV3260E	The Exceptional Student	3
or CHF 3500	Young Children at Risk	3
Educ 3280	Elementary Social Studies Methods	3

Level 3 (Interdisciplinary Methods)

Educ 4300	Elementary Mathematics Methods	3
Educ 4320	Elementary Language Arts Methods	3
Educ 4330	Elementary Science Methods	3
Educ 4340	Elementary Art/Music Methods	3

Level 4 (Synthesis)

Educ 4840	Student Teaching in Elementary Education (K and 1-3)	8
CHF 4850	Integrated Elementary Education Student Teaching Seminar	<u>4</u>

Students enrolling in CHF 2600, 2610, and 2620 will be working with families and children; the State of Utah requires a background check and clearance. Applicants must be fingerprinted and complete a background check before being fully accepted into the program. A handout available from the department secretary explains the procedure and nominal expenses. If the background check reveals misconduct, you will not be allowed to enroll in these courses or any others which include field experience, practica or student teaching. Background checks require up to eight weeks and should be completed, or in progress, prior to enrolling in CHF 2600, 2610, and 2620. See the CHF department secretary for further details.

**You are encouraged to apply two semesters prior to teaching in the Melba S. Lehner Children's School.

DOUBLE MAJOR IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Students wanting licensure in both Early Childhood Education and Elementary Education are encouraged to complete a double major. All course requirements must be completed for both majors, which include only one semester of student teaching EDUC 4840 Student Teaching in Elementary Education (K and 1-3) and CHF 4850 Integrated Elementary Student Teaching Seminar. Students would complete the Elementary Education requirements and are encouraged to choose the Early Childhood Specialization and would have an additional 7 credits added to the course load to receive a double major. Please see the CHF department academic advisor for additional coursework and information.

Is there an application deadline?

Yes. You must declare a program of study and meet the teacher education admission and licensure requirements. Please contact the department for specific information. When you are admitted to the teacher education program, you must attend a new admission orientation (TBA). Check deadline dates with your advisor. weber.edu/coe/teadvise.html

You must be fingerprinted and have a background clearance before entering the program. If your background check reveals criminal misconduct that has not been cleared by the Utah Professional Practice Commission, your admission will be revoked.

Child and Family Studies Student Organization

We encourage you to join the Child and Family Studies Student Organization (CFSSA). The CFSSA is an educational organization designed to provide practical application for students with an emphasis in Child and Family Studies. Activities include preparing you to work toward certifying as an Early Childhood teacher and Family Life Educator, assisting you in continuing your education in graduate programs, and educating the campus and community with respect to family life, relations, and policies. The student organization's efforts enhance community, state and nationwide recognition of the Child and Family Studies Department, the Moyes College of Education, and Weber State University. Call (801) 626-7517 for information on how to join CFSSA.