

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)
- 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)
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.



Where can I find out more about the programs?

**Child and Family Studies Department Advisor
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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. GEOG 1300 or 1520 and 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.

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 (20-22 CREDIT HRS)

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
GEOG 1300		Places & Peoples of the World	3
or GEOG 1520		Geography of the United States & Canada	3

SUPPORT COURSE ELECTIVES (2-4 CREDIT HOURS)

One of the following:

ART CA1030	Studio Art for the Non-Art Major	3
<i>(Allowed if not used for General Education requirement)</i>		
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 3500	Young Child at Risk	3
or EDUC 2010*	Human Exceptionality	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	<u>1</u>
	TOTAL	28

*Either/or option is only for Double majors in Early Childhood Education and Elementary Education

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

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.)

You must 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 (55 Credit Hours)

Admission to teacher education is required prior to enrollment in Professional Education courses.

Level 1 (12 Credit Hours)

EDUC 3120	Reading Instruction in the Primary Grades	3
EDUC 3140	Educational Psychology, Interpersonal Skills and Classroom Management (Elementary)	3
EDUC 3205	Culturally, Linguistically Responsive Teaching	3
EDUC 3270	Differentiation and Collaboration for Inclusive Teaching	3

Level 2 (14 Credit Hours)

EDUC 3100	Instructional Planning & Assessment	3
EDUC 3210	Elementary Level II Practicum	2
EDUC 3240	Reading Instruction in the Intermediate Grades	3
EDUC 4345	Integrating Creative Arts	3
PEP 3620	Methods of Teaching Physical Education and Health for Elementary Teachers	3

Level 3 (17 Credit Hours)

EDUC 3115	Media Integration in Elementary Education Settings	2
EDUC 3280	Elementary Social Studies Methods	3
EDUC 4210	Elementary Level III Practicum	3
EDUC 4300	Elementary Mathematics Methods	3
EDUC 4320	Elementary Language Arts Methods	3
EDUC 4330	Elementary Science Methods	3

Level 4 (12 Credit Hours)

EDUC 4840	Student Teaching in Elementary Education (K-2 and 3-6)	8
EDUC 4850	Integrated Elementary Education Student Teaching Seminar and Synthesis	4

Additional Information:

The Professional Education component of the Early Childhood Education major requires four semesters to complete. Therefore, it is very important that candidates have completed the General Education requirements and have taken at least some of the required Support Courses prior to entering the program. Because of possible scheduling difficulties, failure to do so could mean spending an extra semester (or more) in completing the program.

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.

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 are listed here in Early Childhood Education, which include ONLY one semester of public school teaching EDUC 4840 Student Teaching in Elementary Education (K and 1-6). No additional course requirement needed.

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.



For more information about the Child & Family Studies department please scan for quick reference.