Bachelor of Science in Education/Early Childhood Education

A great teacher can mean the difference between giving a student a jump-start or playing catchup. Our Bachelor of Science in Education/Early Childhood Education, an initial licensure program, teaches you the skills to give children from birth through age 8 or grade 3 the best possible chance of success in school — and beyond. You won't be in this alone.

Our program support specialist can help you navigate teacher licensure and credentialing requirements. We'll also help you with school placements for your clinical experience and clinical practice through our close partnerships with hundreds of school districts nationwide. And you can waive up to 21 credits toward your degree if you’ve earned your Child Development Associate (CDA) credential.

Top skills learned in this program:

- Student Engagement
- Curriculum Planning
- Early Childhood Education
- Differentiated Instruction
- Reflective Teaching Practice
- Instructional Practice
- Professionalism
- Ethical Practice
- Learner Development
- Innovation
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Projected job growth:

7%

According to Bureau of Labor Statistics

What can you do with a Bachelor of Science in Education/Early Childhood Education?

This BS in Education can prepare you to be an:

• Early childhood teacher
• Preschool teacher

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, job growth for kindergarten and elementary school teachers is projected to be as fast as average between 2020 and 2030.

BLS projections are not specific to University of Phoenix students or graduates.

Institutional accreditation

University of Phoenix is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), hlcommission.org. Since 1978, University of Phoenix has been continually accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.
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Requirements and prerequisites

You'll need 120 credits to complete this Bachelor of Science in Education/Early Childhood Education program. Your course schedule may vary based on transferable credits.

19 Core Courses

Here's where you'll pick up the bulk of your program-specific knowledge. By the time you finish these courses, you should have the confidence and skills needed in this field.

- GEN/201: Foundations for University Success
- ECH/300: Orientation to Early Childhood Education
- ECH/301: Foundations of Early Childhood Education
- ECH/205: Early Childhood Growth and Development
- ECH/211: Instructional Strategies for Early Childhood Education
- EDU/215: Ethics and Social Responsibility in Education
- ECH/390: Early Childhood Student Teaching Seminar
- ECH/321: Developmentally-Effective Learning Environments
- ECH/400: Assessment and Evaluation in Early Childhood
- ECH/302: Exceptionalities of the Young Child
- ECH/418: Community and Family Engagement
- SEI/300: Structured English Immersion
- RDG/351: Early Childhood Literacy Development
- RDG/416: Methods of Teaching in Early Childhood Language and Literacy
- ECH/416: Methods of Teaching in Early Childhood: Mathematics
- ECH/420: Methods of Teaching in Early Childhood: Science
- ECH/430: Methods of Teaching in Early Childhood: Social Studies
- ECH/435: Methods of Teaching in Early Childhood: Arts and Music
- SEI/301: Advanced Structured English Immersion Methods

19 General education courses

These courses lay the foundation for all our degree programs. Because communication, math and writing skills aren’t just universally applicable in education — they’re useful in daily life.
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- HUM/115: Critical Thinking in Everyday Life
- ENG/110: English Composition I
- ENG/210: English Composition II
- ETH/120: Cultural Diversity in the United States
- SCI/220T: Human Nutrition
- POL/215: State and Local Political Processes
- HIS/210: AZ Constitution
- SCI/256: People, Science and the Environment
- ARTS/100: Introduction to the Visual and Performing Arts
- HUM/105: World Mythology
- ENG/125: Literature in Society
- ENG/240: Introduction to Creative Writing
- MTH/215T: Quantitative Reasoning I
- MTH/216T: Quantitative Reasoning II
- SCI/163T: Elements of Health and Wellness
- COMM/110: Introduction to Oral Communication
- MTH/213: Mathematics for Elementary Educators I
- MTH/214: Mathematics for Elementary Educators II
- HIS/301: United States Constitution

1 Electives

Elective courses allow you to learn about topics you’re interested in. That means you’ll have a degree that’s unique to you and your education goals.

- FP/100T: Everyday Economics and Finances

2 Clinical Practice/Student Teaching Courses

During your clinical practice experience — one of the final steps to complete your degree — you’ll complete a student teaching experience where you will apply your instruction and classroom management skills full time. Working under the supervision of a teacher and a University of Phoenix faculty supervisor, you’ll develop lesson plans, teach, work with diverse student populations and incorporate technology into the classroom.

COE Central

College of Education students will find many helpful resources on COE Central. Program handbooks provide a wealth of information on topics such as professional expectations, clinical experiences, clinical practice, internships, edTPA and much more. Milestone roadmaps, technology and multimedia resources, and various toolkits are also available.
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Schedule

Your academic counselor will help you schedule your classes.

Plus, you'll find support from our dedicated education program specialists who work with you 1:1 during your 100 required hours of clinical experience (or more if required by your state) and a minimum of 12 weeks of clinical practice (or more if required by your state). Our education program specialists also help you navigate your state licensure requirements for teacher certification, and can help with questions along the way.

What you'll learn

When you earn your Bachelor of Science in Education/Early Childhood Education you'll be equipped with a concrete set of skills you can apply on the job.

You'll learn how to:

- Design and implement effective instruction in the early childhood classroom to produce a positive impact on student learning.
- Evaluate effective professional practice in early childhood education.
- Apply professional ethics to their instructional practices in early childhood education.
- Evaluate learning principles to differentiate instruction to meet the needs of diverse early childhood populations.
- Create innovative strategies that incorporate developmentally appropriate technology in an early childhood setting.

Program Purpose Statement

The Bachelor of Science in Education/Early Childhood is an undergraduate degree program intended to prepare students with no prior teaching experience for initial teacher licensure. The program is designed for students who want to work with children from pre-K through grade 3 or age 8 as a licensed early childhood educator. The program includes a clinical component requiring field experiences and student teaching above and beyond program coursework. Requirements for licensure vary by state. View your state's requirements. There may be additional qualifications and/or disqualifications applicable in order to work as a teacher with any local, state or federal entity.

The following program educationally prepares students to apply for initial teacher certification in select states:

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Educator/Principal licensure requirements vary by state. Candidates located in a state that does not provide a direct path to licensure will be required to obtain Arizona certification first, prior to seeking licensure in their home state as an out-of-state prepared teacher/principal candidate. Arizona certification requires candidates to pass all Arizona-specific licensure requirements, including any Arizona-specific exams (or home state equivalents if recognized by Arizona Department of Education.) After obtaining an Arizona teacher/principal certificate, candidates can then apply for licensure in their home state and may be required to complete additional testing and/or requirements at additional cost. Program requirements may change based upon your home state’s agency licensure requirements. Please visit the teacher licensure page or the principal licensure page for state specific requirements prior to reaching out to your state agency.

*While widely available, not all programs are available to residents of all states. Please check with a University Enrollment Representative.

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