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.

You'll learn how to:

- Create lesson plans that use research-based teaching strategies for elementary students
- Learn how to manage a positive learning environment
- Meet the needs of diverse early childhood classrooms
- Assess children through observation, interaction and other performance measures
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Projected job growth:

3%

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
- Head Start teacher
- Preschool teacher
- Elementary school teacher, grades K-3

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, BLS projections are not specific to University of Phoenix students or graduates.

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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 and its predecessor.
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Total credits required:
120

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
- 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/100: CRITICAL READING AND COMPOSITION
- ENG/200: RHETORIC AND RESEARCH
- ETH/120: CULTURAL DIVERSITY IN THE UNITED STATES
- SCI/220T: HUMAN NUTRITION
- POL/215: STATE AND LOCAL POLITICAL PROCESSES
- HIS/210: AZ CONSTITUTION
- ENV/100T: PRINCIPLES OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
- 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

1-2 Clinical Practice/Student Teaching

During your clinical practice experience — one of the final steps to complete your degree — you’ll complete a rigorous 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 advisor, 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 plenty of support from our dedicated program support specialists who partner with you during your 100 required hours of clinical experience (or more if required by your state) and clinical practice. Our program support specialists also help you navigate the world of state licensure requirements, special education teacher certification and any questions or obstacles you encounter 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.

Topics covered in this degree include:

- Early childhood growth and development
- Instructional strategies
- Assessment and evaluation
- Community and family engagement
- Ethics and social responsibility

Along with the knowledge and skills related to the University Learning Goals, students who graduate from the College of Education should gain program-specific knowledge, skills and abilities. Each college or school creates a set of Program Student Learning Outcomes (PSLOs) to describe the knowledge, skills or attitudes students will possess upon completion of the program of study. By the time you complete your Bachelor of Science in Education/Early Childhood Education degree, you should be able to perform these learning outcomes.

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, please visit https://www.phoenix.edu/colleges/college-of-education/teacher-licensure/state-requirements.html to see 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 programs — BSEd/E, BSEd/ECH, MAEd/TED-E, MAEd/TED-S, MAEd/SPE, CERT/AP-E, CERT/AP-S, and CERT/AP-SE — provide the academic preparation to sit for initial teacher certification exams in select states.

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 https://www.phoenix.edu/colleges/college-of-education/teacher-licensure/state-requirements.html or the principal licensure page https://www.phoenix.edu/colleges/college-of-education/principal-licensure.html for state specific requirements prior to reaching out to your state agency.

While widely available, not all programs are available in all locations or in both online and on-campus formats. Please check with a University Enrollment Representative.