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Office of Career Services: 314-516-5111  
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umsl.edu/~educate

# UMSL Early Childhood Education

## Career Outlook

The field of early childhood education has experienced an increase in the demand for highly qualified and prepared educators. This increase has been the result of the public becoming aware of brain research and the impact of enriched experiences for young children. Additionally, research has provided evidence that young children who participate in quality education and care experiences will be more prepared for positive and successful lives. Additional career opportunities exist for early childhood educators in administering programs for young children and their families, working in specialized child care, private family care, corporations, self-owned businesses, family – focused public and private agencies and providing professional development for other early childhood educators. Qualified early childhood educators can and do make a powerful difference in the lives of children and families.

## Undergraduate Studies

The Early Childhood degree program is housed in the Division of Teaching and Learning, 369 Marillac Hall. Questions about degree and teacher certification requirements should be directed toward the Teacher Certification and Advising Office, 155 Marillac, 516-5937.

The division coordinates programs leading to the BS in education degree in early childhood education. A special feature of this program is the many opportunities to work with children in schools as part of the professional course work.

Note: Professional education courses must be completed with a grade point average of 2.50 and no grade lower than a C (2.0).

## Degree Requirements

### Bachelor of Science in Education: Early Childhood Education (Birth to Grade 3)

The Early Childhood program is designed for students wishing to teach and direct programs for children from pre-kindergarten through grade three. Students electing this program will work directly with young children as a part of their professional courses.

### Pre-Education Requirements

Early Childhood Education (B-3)

### Social Science (12 hours)

PSYCH 1003, General Psychology  
HIST 1001, American Civilization I or History 1002, American Civilization II  
POL SCI 1100, Introduction to American Politics  
SOC 1010, Introduction to Sociology or any anthropology course

### Science (9 hours)

BIOL 1012, General Biology  
BIOL 1013, General Biology Laboratory  
Physical Science Lab  
Physical Science Lecture

### English/Communications (9 hours)

ENG 1100, Composition  
ENG 3100, Advanced Expository Writing  
COMM 1040, Introduction to Public Speaking

### Mathematics (6 hours)

MATH 1030, College Algebra  
MATH 1150, Structure of Mathematical Systems I

## Humanities (9 hours)

Courses from the following fields: art history, music history, philosophy, literature and language.

## Program Requirements

Level I Exploring Education as a Profession

- TCH ED 2210, Introduction to Teaching
- TCH ED 2211, Introduction to American Schools
- TCH ED 2212, Introduction to Learners & Learning

Level II Analyzing the Nature and Processes of Education

Note: Must be admitted to the Teacher Education Program to enroll in the following courses:

- ECH ED 3312, Introduction to Early Childhood
- TCH ED 3310, Introduction to Instructional Methods
- TCH ED 3312, The Psychology of Teaching & Learning
- TCH ED 3313, Introduction to Learners with Disabilities & Inclusive Education
- TCH ED 3315, Literacy, Learning & Instruction

Related Area Requirements

- PHY ED 3282, Physical Growth & Motor Development
- PHY ED 3430, Teaching Health in the Elementary School

Level III Synthesizing Theory and Practice in Education

Note: Entrance into Level III is based on successful completion of all course work in Levels I and II, as well as any prerequisite courses required by advanced methods courses.

- ECH ED 3303, Curriculum & Practice Laboratory: Infant/Toddler
- ECH ED 3304, Curriculum & Practice Laboratory: Preschool
- ECH ED 3313, Curriculum & Practice: Infant/Toddler
- ECH ED 3314, Curriculum & Practice: Preschool

- ELE ED 3330, Child Literature & Reading
- ECH ED 3332, Early Literacy
- ELE ED 3336, Teaching Language Arts & Reading
- ECH ED 4317, Assessing Individual Needs
- ECH ED 4320, Classroom Management
- ECH ED 4346, Acquisition of Math Concepts
- ECH ED 4989, Early Childhood Internship
- ECH ED 4990, Student Teaching
- ECH ED 4991, Student Teaching

Total: 120 hours

## Graduate Studies

### Degrees and Areas of Emphasis

M.Ed. programs are offered in counseling, educational administration, elementary education, secondary education, special education and adult & higher education. Within the counseling program are the emphasis areas of elementary, secondary school counseling and community counseling. Within the Educational Administration program are the emphasis areas of elementary administration, secondary administration and community education. Within the Elementary Education program is the general emphasis area, reading and early childhood education. Within the Secondary Education program are the general emphasis area, curriculum and instruction, reading and middle school education. Within the Special Education program are the general emphasis area and early childhood special education. Within the Adult and Higher Education program are the adult education and the higher education emphases.

Ed.S. Programs are available in educational administration and in school psychology. Programs leading to the Ed.D. Degrees are offered in counseling education, teaching-learning processes, adult & higher education and educational administration. Programs leading to the Ph.D. in Education Degree are offered in counseling, teaching-learning processes, educational psychology and research methods and educational leadership and policy studies.