

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION MAJOR

The Early Childhood Education major prepares candidates for the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Initial License as a teacher of children in public school classrooms, PK through grade 2. The program of study is based on a broad liberal arts foundation and an integrated professional teacher preparation program. A course waiver process is available for transfer students where appropriate. Fieldwork accompanies most education courses and is a necessary component of the program. Student prepracticum experiences include a wide variety of field settings. Students attend different and varied schools in urban, rural, and suburban settings. They also vary their placements and grade levels in different school buildings within districts to ensure a well rounded experience.

Preparation for the Massachusetts Test for Educator Licensure (MTEL) is embedded in the program at various stages and must be passed to obtain the initial license.

Early Childhood Education Major Teacher Licensure Program (Massachusetts Public Schools, PK-2)

Requirements for a Major in Early Childhood Education leading to MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Initial Licensure (PK-2):

45 credits

Prerequisite Courses

Code	Title	Credits
MA-130	Number and Operations for Teachers	3
PS-210	Developmental Psychology	3
Total Credits		6

Required Courses

Code	Title	Credits
ED-160 or ED-150	Early Childhood Education Today Introduction to the Teaching Profession	3
ED-206	Development and Learning of Typical and Atypical Children Birth to Age 8	3
ED-211	Integrating Science, Social Studies and the Fine Arts in Early Childhood Curriculum	3
ED-214	Emergent Literacy	3
ED-304	Best Practices for English Language Learners	3
ED-307	ECE - Science	3
ED-308	ECE - Mathematics	3
ED-313	Practicum in Early Childhood Education: Preschool/Kindergarten	3
ED-340	Language Arts & Literacy for the Primary Grades	3
ED-386	Assessment and Adjustment in Practice In Early Childhood Education	3
ED-400	Inclusive Early Childhood Education: Preschool Through Grade 2	3
ED-405	Classroom Management and Child Guidance Techniques	3

ED-430	Practicum in Early Childhood Education: Grade 1 or Grade 2	9
Total Credits		45

Recommended Courses

Code	Title	Credits
EN-102	College Writing II (or equivalent)	3
HE-100	Personal Health	3
HE-120	Health and Nutrition	3
MA-132	Geometry, Measurement, Probability and Statistics for Teachers	3

Students are required to take specific liberal arts and science courses to satisfy foundation and distribution requirements.

Students who major in early childhood education must also complete a minor or second major. Early childhood education students must meet with an advisor in the education department in order to choose an appropriate minor or second major that aids the student in at least one of the following areas: gaining subject matter knowledge relevant to what they will teach in the future, enhancing pedagogical skills, and/or understanding the diverse students in their future classrooms.

Admission to the Early Childhood Education Major

Early Childhood Education majors seeking the MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Initial License will progress through a three-stage process. Each stage must be satisfactorily completed before passage to the next stage.

Stage I: Early Childhood Major

1. Students demonstrate competence in communication skills by completing the following course with a grade of C or higher.

Code	Title	Credits
EN-102	College Writing II (or equivalent)	3

2. Students demonstrate competence in math with a grade of C or higher in the following course:

Code	Title	Credits
MA-130	Number and Operations for Teachers	3

3. Students must submit a Criminal Offender Records Information (CORI) application and be approved prior to beginning classroom observations in the Worcester Public Schools. No student is allowed to do fieldwork unless approval of the CORI has been received from the state. Before completion of ED-160 or ED-150, students must be fingerprinted through the Massachusetts designated agency (MorphoTrust USA IdentoGO). Additional information regarding fingerprinting is available in the Education Department.
4. Students demonstrate potential for teaching children by completing all of the following courses with a grade of C+ or higher and earning a cumulative GPA of 2.5.

Code	Title	Credits
PS-210	Developmental Psychology	3
ED-160 or ED-150	Early Childhood Education Today (5 hours fieldwork) Introduction to the Teaching Profession	3
ED-206	Development and Learning of Typical and Atypical Children Birth to Age 8 (10 hours)	3

ED-211	Integrating Science, Social Studies and the Fine Arts in Early Childhood Curriculum (10 hours fieldwork)	3
ED-214	Emergent Literacy (10 hours fieldwork)	3

- Students must receive a passing score on the Massachusetts Test for Educator Licensure (MTEL) Communication and Literacy Skills Test. MTEL preparation courses are available in the fall and spring semesters.
- Any departure from the prescribed program of study for teacher licensure must have Waiver Committee approval prior to advancement to Stage II.

Stage II: Admission into the Early Childhood Licensure Program

- Upon satisfactory completion of Stage I requirements, students are eligible to apply for formal admission to the Early Childhood Education Licensure Program. The application must include MTEL test results and transcripts of all previous course work. Approval by the Education Department is necessary for a student to progress to Stage II.

During Stage II, students must complete all of the following courses with a grade of C+ or higher AND earn a cumulative GPA of 2.7.

Fieldwork accompanies the following methods courses.

Code	Title	Credits
ED-304	Best Practices for English Language Learners	3
ED-307	ECE - Science (10 hours fieldwork)	3
ED-308	ECE - Mathematics (10 hours fieldwork)	3
ED-313	Practicum in Early Childhood Education: Preschool/Kindergarten	3
ED-340	Language Arts & Literacy for the Primary Grades (10 hours fieldwork)	3
ED-386	Assessment and Adjustment in Practice In Early Childhood Education (5 hours fieldwork)	3
ED-400	Inclusive Early Childhood Education: Preschool Through Grade 2	3

- After completing 90 credits of academic work, students may apply for formal admission into ED-313 (corerequisite ED-400). This application will be reviewed and acted upon by the Licensure Officer. Additional information regarding formal application for Practicum in ECE is available from the Education Department.

Stage III: Early Childhood Education Major – Practicum

- Upon satisfactory completion of Stage II requirements, students are eligible to apply for formal admission into ED-430 (corequisite ED-405).
- Students must have received a passing score on all portions of the Massachusetts Test for Educator Licensure (Communication and Literacy, Early Childhood, and Foundations of Reading).
- Students must have attained senior standing (90 credits of course work) to complete the Primary Practicum.
- This application will be reviewed and acted upon by the Licensure Officer.
- Students convicted of a felony may be denied admission to student teaching.

- Any departure from the prescribed program of study must be approved by the Department Chair and/or Dean of Education and Interdisciplinary Studies.

Additional information regarding formal application for the Primary Practicum is available from the Education Department.

Department of Education: Early Childhood Education & Second Major Sample Timeline For Completion of Degree

Year One		
Semester One		Credits
ED-160	Early Childhood Education Today	3
EN-101	College Writing I ¹	3
LASC	First-Year Seminar	3
MA-130	Number and Operations for Teachers (LASC QR)	3
PS-101	General Psychology (LASC HBS)	3
Credits		15
Semester Two		
EN-102	College Writing II ¹	3
HI-111	US History to 1877 (LASC Const)	3
ED-206	Development and Learning of Typical and Atypical Children Birth to Age 8 (LASC DAC)	3
GS-101	Physical Geography (LASC NSP)	3
PS-210	Developmental Psychology	3
Credits		15
Year Two		
Semester Three		
ED-211	Integrating Science, Social Studies and the Fine Arts in Early Childhood Curriculum	3
HI-112	US History 1865 to the Present (LASC USW)	3
HE-100	Personal Health (LASC ICW)	3
MA-132	Geometry, Measurement, Probability and Statistics for Teachers (LASC QR)	3
LASC QLAC or Second Major Requirement		3
Credits		15
Semester Four		
ED-214	Emergent Literacy (LASC WAC)	3
EV-120	Integrated Environmental Science for Educators	4
ED-339	Children's Literature: Multicultural Literature for PK-9 (or other LASC Elective TLC)	3
Credits		10
Year Three		
Semester Five		
ED-307	ECE - Science	3
ED-340	Language Arts & Literacy for the Primary Grades	3
MU-237	Music in the Elementary School (LASC CA)	3
HI-103	Connecting Ancient Worlds: World History to 1500 (LASC GP)	3
Second Major Requirement		3

Second Major Requirement		3
	Credits	18
Semester Six		
ED-308 or ED-307	ECE - Mathematics (LASC QLAC) or ECE - Science	3
ED-386	Assessment and Adjustment in Practice In Early Childhood Education	3
	Credits	6
Year Four		
Semester Seven		
ED-304	Best Practices for English Language Learners (LASC DAC)	3
ED-400	Inclusive Early Childhood Education: Preschool Through Grade 2	3
ED-313	Practicum in Early Childhood Education: Preschool/Kindergarten	3
Second Major Requirement		3
Second Major Requirement		3
	Credits	15
Semester Eight		
ED-405	Classroom Management and Child Guidance Techniques	3
ED-430	Practicum in Early Childhood Education: Grade 1 or Grade 2	9
	Credits	12
	Total Credits	106

¹ EN-101 & EN-102 satisfies LASC writing.

MTEL Timeline:

- After completing EN-102, students should take the Communication and Literacy Skills MTEL.
- By the beginning of their Junior Year, students should take the Foundations of Reading MTEL.
- By the end of their Junior Year, students should take the Early Childhood MTEL.
- In order to enroll in ED-405 and ED-430, students must successfully complete all MTEL requirements.

Students are required to meet with their academic advisor to review their courses for the upcoming semester. A minimum of 120 credits is required for graduation. First-year and transfer students with 45 or fewer credits at the time of admission shall complete two academic programs (a major/major or major/minor) to qualify for graduation. For more information, please view the MajorPlus section of this catalog.