

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION, BSE

Elementary Education graduates receive a bachelor's degree, teacher certification in grades K-9, and an outstanding preparation to enter one of the most important careers ever: teaching young children! Our program prides itself on preparing successful educators in a socially just and equitable manner, and job placement is exceptionally high.

The Elementary Education professional sequence is a two-year commitment, typically starting in the fall of the junior year, although some courses may be taken in the sophomore year. Coursework and field experiences lead to the capstone experience of student teaching.

Our graduates become teacher leaders committed to teaching all children effectively and advancing justice through classroom practices, personal interactions, and community engagement. We teach research-based practices that assist teachers throughout their careers in education.

Students are encouraged to get involved as soon as they arrive on campus, and we have a variety of ways for this to happen. Many education-related courses are open to freshmen and sophomores. The School of Education's Buddy Program, in which new students are paired with a junior or senior in the program, helps students find a supportive community on our Big Ten campus. Many students volunteer in local schools and community organizations, including Schools of Hope (<https://schoolsofhope.org/>). We also welcome you to join our active chapter of Aspiring Educators (<https://www.facebook.com/AspiringEducatorsUWMadison/>), a pre-professional educators association.

UW-Madison's Elementary Education program trains teachers to recognize, appreciate, and value the wide range of gifts diverse students bring to our increasingly multicultural, complex world.

See what an elementary education professor and a teacher candidate have to say about the Elementary Education Program (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uCKPIVGrC3k>) at UW-Madison.

CERTIFICATION OPTIONS

The Elementary Education area offers five certification options, giving students many choices as they plan their career paths. All certification options are designed to be completed in four semesters after program admission and some classes may be taken prior to starting the professional sequence. Students are admitted once a year and begin the four-semester professional sequence in the following fall. Notification of admission takes place in the spring and is effective in the summer.

- Kindergarten through Ninth Grade (<https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/education/curriculum-instruction/elementary-education-bse/elementary-education-kindergarten-9th-grade-bse/>) - Students completing this core program option will be certified to teach general education at the grade levels of K-9 and will also be eligible to teach in a 4K classroom.
- English as a Second Language (ESL) K-12 (<https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/education/curriculum-instruction/english-second-language-minor/>) and Kindergarten through Ninth Grade - A minor in English as a Second Language can be added to the core K-9 program. Students selecting this combination will be certified to teach K-9 and English as

a Second Language in grades K-12. Only fluency in English is needed to teach ESL.

- Early Childhood Education (ECE) (<https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/education/curriculum-instruction/early-childhood-education-minor/>) and Kindergarten through Ninth Grade - A minor in Early Childhood can also be added to the core K-9 program. Students selecting this combination will be certified to teach K-9 and Early Childhood Education from birth through Grade 3.
- Kindergarten through Ninth Grade, and Early Childhood Education, and English as a Second Language K-12 - Students may opt to complete both the ECE and ESL minors in combination with K-9 certification. Successful students receive certification in all three areas.
- Kindergarten through Ninth Grade and Special Education K-12 (Dual Certification) (<https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/education/rehabilitation-psychology-special-education/elementary-education-special-education-bse/>) - Students interested in both Elementary and Special Education should investigate the new Elementary Education and Special Education degree housed in the Department of Rehabilitation Psychology and Special Education. Upon completion, students are certified in K-9 general education and Special Education in grades K-12.

THE TEACHER PLEDGE

The School of Education at UW-Madison currently offers a very unique financial opportunity for students in the Elementary Education program called the Teacher Pledge (<https://tec.education.wisc.edu/teacher-pledge/>). The School pledges to pay the equivalent of in-state tuition and fees for all teacher education students. In return, Elementary Education students pledge to work at a Wisconsin PreK-9 school for three to four years after graduation, depending on the location.

MADISON COLLEGE TRANSFER AGREEMENT

Madison College students should also investigate the new transfer agreement (<https://tec.education.wisc.edu/become-a-teacher/uw-madison-school-of-education-transfer-agreement/>) between Madison College and UW-Madison. Students meeting the requirements of this agreement are guaranteed admission to UW-Madison's School of Education and to Elementary Education.

"My instructors play a huge role in helping me become the person that I am today. They value who I am as a person and a learner, and through their influences and passion for teaching students of color, I have been inspired to do the same."

- Mai Ya Her, UW-Madison Elementary

Education