Early Childhood Education

The Early Childhood Education program prepares students to teach children in a variety of urban and suburban educational settings, including public and private elementary schools and child care centers. Students entering the program must be able and willing to devote themselves to a program requiring a minimum of 445 hours of daytime field experiences in schools and child care centers (145 hours in early childhood and 300 hours in bilingual/ESL education). These field-based clinical hours are completed in conjunction with curriculum and strategy courses that require students to participate in teaching activities with children ranging in age from birth through age eight. In addition, the student must successfully complete two six-week periods of full-time student teaching, as part of their culminating early childhood education experience.

Graduates earn the Bachelor of Science degree and are eligible to receive the Professional Educator License (PEL) with an Early Childhood endorsement (birth to grade 3), Special Education approval (preschool only), and ESL endorsement (grades K to 3). Graduates will be eligible for the Bilingual Education endorsement if they pass the required non-English language test.

Licensure

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) issues licenses to individuals who meet the State’s requirements. Students will be eligible for the teaching license upon successful completion of the following requirements:

- B.S. degree in Early Childhood Education
- Minimum cumulative 2.75 GPA
- All field experiences completed & approved
- Pass TAP, Content Area & APT Tests

ISBE website: [http://www.isbe.state.il.us/default.htm](http://www.isbe.state.il.us/default.htm)

Illinois State Licensure Tests

*No individual may attempt to pass the same ILTS test more than five times

- Test of Academic Proficiency (test 400)
  Take by the end of first quarter.
  Must pass to apply for Advanced Standing.
- Content Area Test – Early Childhood (test 107)
  Take end of junior/beginning of senior year.
  Must pass to be cleared to Student Teach.
- APT Test (Pre-K—12 test 188 or 101)
  Take end of junior/beginning of senior year.
  Must pass to be cleared to Student Teach.


Approvals/Endorsements

Upon successful completion of the program’s requirements, Early Childhood Education students will receive:

- Approval for Special Education (preschool level)
- ESL endorsement (primary level)

Students are eligible to receive the Bilingual Endorsement (BE) if they successfully complete the Target Language Proficiency (TLP) test.

Speak with your advisor if you have any questions.

Field Experiences

Each student seeking licensure must complete supervised field experiences in conjunction with education courses. The field experiences must include a variety of grade levels, multicultural experiences, and a minimum of 10 hours in special education settings.

Field Experiences must be completed in at least three (3) different schools. No more than 1/2 of the total hours can be in one school.

All field experiences must be completed prior to final approval for student teaching.

Field experience hours should be entered by the student into the Field Experience Documentation System (FEDS) when completing course field experience requirements: [https://fedsapps.is.depaul.edu/Login/Login.aspx](https://fedsapps.is.depaul.edu/Login/Login.aspx)

Student Teaching

Student teaching is completed during the last quarter of the program.

- Students must attend a Mandatory Meeting approximately ONE YEAR prior to applying for Student Teaching. Mandatory Meetings are held in October and January each year. Email reminders will be sent prior to meetings, and more information can be found here: [http://education.depaul.edu/CurrentStudents/StudentTeaching/Stage1.asp](http://education.depaul.edu/CurrentStudents/StudentTeaching/Stage1.asp)
- Specific requirements apply, including GPA requirement.
- Students must receive a B– or better in Student Teaching.
- Consult catalog, advisor, website for details.

Application and Placement information documented in EdTrack: [https://www.soeddepaul.org/EdTrack/Programs/LogOn.htm](https://www.soeddepaul.org/EdTrack/Programs/LogOn.htm)

Modern Language Option

Talk to your advisor if you are interested in taking a language. It could substitute for Learning Domain courses.

Course Catalog

The Catalog contains curricular information for all degree programs offered at DePaul and academic policies. Visit the Catalog to view all policies and procedures about your program. [http://www.depaul.edu/university-catalog/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.depaul.edu/university-catalog/Pages/default.aspx)

Study Abroad Program

The Study Abroad Program (SAP) is a wonderful opportunity and one in which we highly encourage our students to participate. A wide range of programs are offered, allowing students to explore specific areas of interest to them—Cuba, Greece, India, and Japan, just to name a few. While SAP can sometimes be completed within the typical 4-year time-frame, it is possible that a program may add 1-2 extra quarters of courses, or the student will need to complete 5 courses per quarter in order to remain “on track.”

If you are interested in pursuing the SAP, please attend one of the 30-minute Study Abroad 101 informational sessions (which are offered at both the LPC and Loop campuses—check [http://studyabroad.depaul.edu/](http://studyabroad.depaul.edu/) for dates and times). You should, then, consult with your academic advisor as soon as possible in order to ensure appropriate timing* and course applicability, as not all course options can be applied to specific degree requirements.

*Sophomore year tends to be an ideal time to complete SAP, but please consult with an advisor

Degree Requirements

- All coursework completed
- Minimum cumulative 2.75 GPA
- Submission of degree conferral application

Degree conferral application deadlines:

- Fall Quarter: October 1st
- Winter Quarter: January 15th
- Spring Quarter: February 1st
- Summer Quarter: July 15th

DePaul holds one Graduation Ceremony a year, which is at the end of Spring Quarter. Participation in the ceremony requires a separate application in addition to the degree conferral application.

Acknowledgement of Student

I have received and read the information outlined in this Info Sheet.

Student Signature: ______________________ Date: ____________
### Education Courses
- Grade of C or better required in all Education courses (pre-teacher and advanced standing).

### Concentration
- Grade of C or better required
- Completion of the concentration qualifies you for the ESL endorsement. To qualify for bilingual endorsement, you must pass a language proficiency test in the non-English language.

### Advanced Standing Courses
To take Advanced Standing courses you must submit a petition. Petition forms are available on the COE website under Current Students in the Forms Library.

#### 4 yr recommended sequence (ECE courses only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st year</th>
<th>2nd year</th>
<th>3rd year</th>
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<td>ECE 298</td>
<td>ECE 309</td>
<td>SCU 336</td>
<td>Student Teaching</td>
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### Clinical Experiences Note
Field Experiences must be taken with co-requisite course:
- ECE 290 must be taken with ECE 280
- ECE 310 must be taken with ECE 381
- ECE 311 must be taken with ECE 382

ECE 383 requires 150 field experience hours and a formal application one year in advance of taking the course.

### Open Electives
Electives must be 100 level & above (except PE courses)

### Questions or concerns??
Contact your academic advisor in Suite 140! They are here to help you navigate your requirements for the degree and the license. You can also check out the course catalog online and the COE website for details.

### Advanced Standing Course Prerequisites
Complete all advanced standing requirements to be eligible to take advanced standing courses. You do not need to take all pre-teacher courses before taking advanced standing courses.

### Learning Domains (LD)
- **Arts & Literature**
  - Choose courses that interest you
- **Philosophical Inquiry**
  - PHL 100 and SCU 207 recommended before taking LSE 380
- **Scientific Inquiry**
  - LSP 120 is a prerequisite for all SI courses
  - One biological science course, one physical science course, and one additional SI course required.
  - One course MUST have a lab component
- **Self, Society, and the Modern World**
  - Choose courses that interest you
  - One course must be PSC 120
- **Religious Dimensions**
  - Choose courses that interest you
- **Understanding the Past**
  - Choose courses that interest you
  - One course must be a US history course

### 2.5 yr recommended sequence (ECE courses only)

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* indicates courses that are offered fall, winter & spring. Placement here is a suggestion to balance out your education courses. Only education courses listed above.