

# Early Childhood Education – Online Degree Completion Program



**Millersville's online Early Childhood Education program provides an exemplary program for undergraduate students in education, connecting content and pedagogy with authentic experiences in diverse school settings and upholding high standards for professional and civic conduct.**

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Millersville's online Early Childhood Education program is designed to provide in-depth knowledge of subject matter and appropriate knowledge of pedagogy to teach prekindergarten to grade 4. Students who complete the Early Childhood Education program at Millersville University receive a Bachelor of Science in Education degree and may apply for a Pennsylvania Instructional I teaching certificate.

\*Students outside of PA should check with their state's Department of Education on licensure requirements before entering this program.

## PROGRAM BENEFITS

- 100% online courses.
- Program start dates in spring and fall.
- Flexibility to work while earning a degree.
- Courses offered year-round to allow you to complete your degree faster.
- Major courses completed in 7.5 weeks.

## WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

Students within this program complete 15 credit hours in the professional core, 12 credit hours in student teaching and 45 credit hours in research-based methods of instruction. This program will prepare teacher candidates to use research-based methods of instruction with young children.

Teacher candidates are trained in the "coteaching" model of instruction and learn to collaborate with professionals in the school. Field placements can be flexible to a student's work situation or current career placement.

## WHY STUDY THIS PROGRAM?

The Early Childhood Education program at Millersville University prepares students to teach prekindergarten to grade 4. This program features many unique learning opportunities. Teacher candidates develop solid content knowledge and skills in educational assessment, lesson planning and instructional delivery. They learn how to work with children of all abilities and backgrounds and model best practices in consultation, collaboration and coteaching.

Graduates of this program are prepared for many different career paths as lead teachers in early learning centers, kindergartens and grades 1–4 in urban, suburban and rural communities, as well as many others.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Childcare worker
- Elementary school teacher
- Education administrator
- Preschool teacher
- Special education teacher
- Teacher assistant
- Child, family and school social workers
- Instructional coordinator



## COURSE FIELD EXPERIENCE EXPECTATIONS

Students in the online program will complete fieldwork. Students are required to be working at least eight hours per week in an education setting before beginning the online program to use their workplace as a placement setting.

### FOUNDATIONS BLOCK

Students will complete a case study based on field observations. Students will make connections between content being taught in the University course and observations made in the classroom. Candidates will write a reflective paper on working with students. Candidates will complete a teacher interview, a classroom observation checklist, a reading inventory/ interview with a student and a lesson plan (taught), with feedback provided from a certified teacher (cooperating teacher/mentor).

### REQUIRED EDUCATION COURSES

Students will facilitate a creative lesson. Candidates will apply what they learn by making instructional decisions about children's literature in their classrooms. Assignments will include evaluating classroom libraries, selecting and sharing quality literature, and reading aloud. Students will complete a parent interview.

### PROFESSIONAL BLOCK I

Students will complete a child development and assessment project, environmental assessment and teach mini lessons. Students will begin planning, implementing and reflecting on literacy assessments with young children (preferably birth to age 5).

### PROFESSIONAL BLOCK II

Students will use children's literature in mathematics instruction. Students will complete an oral reading fluency assessment, lesson-plan analysis, design three lesson plans and teach one lesson. Students will complete an analysis of the science curriculum of the placement.

### STUDENT TEACHING

During teaching, candidates will begin to take responsibility for teaching the classroom lessons and provide most of the daily instruction.

## PROGRAM CURRICULUM

### Program Prerequisites:

Completion of at least 30 transferrable credits, including the below required prerequisite courses, is required before beginning.

- ERCH 110 Intro to Early Childhood Education
- SPED 101 Orientation to Special Ed
- MATH 104 Fundamentals of Math 1
- MATH 105 Fundamentals of Math 2

### Program Required Courses:

- EDFN 211 Foundations of Modern Education
- EDFN 241 Psychological Foundations of Teaching
- EDFN 320 Instructional Technology in Elementary Ed
- ERCH 225 Foundations of Reading
- ERCH 315 Family and Community: Aspects of Diversity
- ERCH 316 Creative Experiences for the Young Child
- ERCH 345 Social Studies for the Young Learner
- ERCH 421 Language Development and Emergent Literacy
- ERCH 422 Teaching of Literacy, PreK-4
- ERCH 435 Literature for the Young Child
- ERCH 455 Teaching Mathematics to Young Children
- ERCH 465 Science for the Young Learner
- ERCH 485 Teaching Young English Language Learners
- ERCH 496 Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment: Engaging the Young Child
- SPED 311 Assessment for Designing and Implementing Instruction
- SPED 331 Positive Learning Environments for All Students
- EDEL 461 Eled Student Teaching
- EDEL 462 Eled Student Teaching

### Required Related Courses:

- ART 128 Art Integration
- PSYC 227 Child and Adolescent
- WELL 240 Health, Safety and Nutrition

After applying, a transfer evaluation will be conducted to identify how many general education credits you will need to take to fulfill degree requirements.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Dr. Aileen Hower** | [Aileen.Hower@millersville.edu](mailto:Aileen.Hower@millersville.edu) | 717-871-7341