

EASTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Advisement Guide For Master of Science In Early Childhood Education With Certification

(Ct 113, Integrated Early Childhood/Special Ed., N - K - Elem. 1 – 3)

**GRADUATE EARLY START OPTION**

This form supersedes catalog requirements and previous forms.

Standards for teaching are set by the profession and by the State of CT. and are outlined in the Connecticut Common Core of Teaching. Eastern Connecticut State University has a State-approved teacher education program designed to prepare students to be certified professionals in education. This plan of study is an outline of requirements set by the University and by the State of CT. for the teacher certification program. This outline represents minimum requirements. Each student is encouraged to take the initiative to exceed these requirements in preparing to be the best professionals possible. Students successfully completing the Early Childhood Education Teacher Certification Program will receive, from the State of CT., dual certification in general and special education for preschool and kindergarten, and general education for grades 1-3.

**Entrance into the Teacher Education (CARE) Program:**

CARE Application deadlines (applications due by the FIRST of the month in the fall of your SENIOR year):

Spring admission: September, October\*, November, December, January

*\*Designated as Early Start Option Priority Admission*

1. Applications to the graduate certification program must be submitted electronically through the online link at the Graduate Division: <https://tinyurl.com/EasternGrad>
2. All applicants must be fully admitted by the teacher education program (CARE) as well as by the graduate school.
3. Application requirements, including a **minimum 2.70 cumulative grade point average** from all undergraduate coursework, are listed in the application. Average GPA of the admission cohort must be at least 3.00.
4. All applicants must demonstrate **basic competence in Reading, Writing, and Mathematics** by submitting an objective measure of these skills (*i.e.*, the Praxis I Core, SAT, ACT, or GRE test) and achieving a minimum score prescribed by Eastern's CARE (Committee for Admission and Retention in Education). The exam should be taken early enough so that scores will be available when application is made to the teacher education program. Applicants who do not meet the minimum competency can remediate by re-taking the tests or through select coursework; such remediation must be successfully completed prior to student teaching.
5. **Three recommendations** (forms).
6. Applicants must successfully complete an **interview with Education Department faculty**.
7. Evidence of 20 hours of service working with pre-K through grade 3 learners in diverse settings and in an established educational organization is recommended.
8. Once admitted by CARE into the teacher education program, candidates may take up to 7 credits of the early childhood certification program during the Spring semester of their senior year. Please note that these credits will count towards the candidate's certification program and not the graduate program.
9. Admission to the certification program and the graduate school will be provisional until successful completion of the undergraduate degree.

**STATE LIBERAL ARTS REQUIREMENT (GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS):**

The State Department of Education requires a minimum of 39 semester hours of coursework in general education before it certifies an individual as an educator. Candidates must have earned a grade of C or better in these courses:

- Health: HPE 201 (1 credit) or HPE 210 (3 credits)
- HIS 120 or HIS 121 or HIS 310, or other [approved courses](#) listed on CT State Department of education website (3 credits)
- MAT 139 or MAT 139P (3-4 credits)
- ENG (6 credits)

- ARTS (3 credits)
- Natural Science 2 courses, one must be with a lab (7 credits)
- Social Science (3 credits)
- Foreign Language (if not met in high school) 6 credits
- ECE 215 or other relevant foundations course<sup>1</sup>
- PSY 206 or EDU 200 or other relevant child development course<sup>2</sup>
- Human Growth and Development (12 credits): Completing relevant courses in Early Childhood Core will fulfill this requirement.

## PROGRAM OF STUDY IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION, CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

### Spring Semester Senior Year Undergrad<sup>3</sup>

**Total 7 credits**

ECE 420: Development of Children with Special Needs (3 credits)

ECE 410: Families, Culture and Child Development (3 credits)

ECE 301: Field Experience (1 credit)

### Graduate degree program: Minimum of 30 graduate credits

#### Summer Session I

**Total 12 credits**

ECE 504: Early Childhood Curriculum (3 credits)

ECE 503: Language and Literacy (3 credits)

#### Summer Session II

EDU 504: Educational Assessment (3 credits)

ECE 512: Technology in the Early Childhood Classroom (3 credits)

#### Fall Semester

**Total 8 credits**

ECE 516: Clinical Experiences II (1 credit)

EDU 505: Second Language Acquisition (1 credit)

ECE 507: Reading and Writing in the Primary Years (3 credits)

ECE 510: Math and Science in ECE (3 credits)

#### Spring Semester (Student Teaching<sup>4</sup>)

**Total 12 credits**

ECE 566 Student Teaching in a Primary Grade (6 credits)

ECE 565 Practicum in Early Childhood Special Education (3 credits)

ECE 506 Adaptations for Diverse Needs (3 credits)

#### **Certification Tests:** (see <http://www.ct.nesinc.com> for more information)

1. The Connecticut Foundations of Reading Test<sup>5</sup>
2. CT-Early Childhood Test-002<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Candidates may take EDU 210, EDU 357, or EDU 555 in lieu of ECE 215.

<sup>2</sup> Candidates may take ECE 500 in lieu of PSY 206 or EDU 200.

<sup>3</sup> Courses apply towards certification, but not the graduate program.

<sup>4</sup> Candidates must complete all required graduate courses and clinical experiences prior to student teaching.

<sup>5</sup> Candidates must pass the CT Foundations of Reading Test prior to completion of student teaching.

<sup>6</sup> Candidates must pass the CT-Early Childhood Test-002 prior to start of student teaching.