

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS College of Education

The College of Education offers eight undergraduate teacher licensure and non-licensure degree programs that prepare students for careers in the field of education, human resources, business, technology, government, and more.

Students interested in transferring to the College of Education are highly encouraged to visit the Transfer Students website: <https://education.illinois.edu/programs/information-for/transfer-students> and submit the Prospective Transfer online form. **Consultation with the College of Education advising staff regarding a plan of study is strongly recommended.**

Overview of College of Education Programs:

Majors that lead to teacher licensure in the state of Illinois:

- [**Early Childhood Education**](#)
- [**Early Childhood Professional Education**](#)¹
- [**Elementary Education**](#)
- [**Middle Grades Education**](#) (Concentrations in Math, Science, Social Science, and Literacy)
- [**Special Education, Learning & Behavior Specialist I**](#)

Majors that lead to careers in education-related fields:

- [**Learning & Education Studies**](#) (Concentrations in Digital Environments for Learning, Teaching and Agency; Educational Equality & Cultural Understanding; and Workplace Training and Development)
- [**Computer Science + Education, Concentration: Learning Sciences**](#)

The following information is relevant to ALL College of Education programs. Please see specific programs for further details.

1. Transferable Hours

Transferable hours are defined as the hours and grades added to a student's academic record, which may or may not satisfy degree requirements, but can be used to satisfy transferable hour requirements for transfer admission. However, transfer evaluation designations such as NOTR (non-transferable) are also displayed on the transfer evaluation form. Those grades are not factored in a student's transfer GPA.

2. Office of Undergraduate Admissions Application/Essay

<http://admissions.illinois.edu/Apply/Transfer/essay>

Provides an opportunity for students to demonstrate commitment to their intended major.

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¹ This program is for early childhood education professionals who are working or have worked in the field **AND** have obtained an AA, AAS, or AT degree in Early Childhood Education from an approved community college program (and secured the Gateways Level 4 Credential).

CONTACT INFORMATION: Student Academic Affairs Office (SAAO), University of Illinois, College of Education, 110 Education Building, 1310 South Sixth Street, Champaign, IL 61820; Phone: (217) 333-2800; FAX: (217) 244-3647; E-mail: saao@education.illinois.edu

3. **Language other than English Requirement**

For admission to the College of Education, all transfer applicants must have completed either two years of one language other than English in high school or through the second level (2 semesters) of one language other than English in college prior to the desired term of entry. **For graduation from the College of Education**, a student must complete three years of one language other than English in high school or through the third level (3 semesters) of one language other than English in college. **It is strongly encouraged that transfer applicants complete the College of Education’s Language Requirement for graduation prior to transfer.**

4. **Coursework**

Specific courses are required for admission to individual programs. Refer to desired program for a list of required courses. Consult <https://transferology.com/> for course equivalencies.

5. **GPA 2.75 minimum; 3.0 GPA or higher is highly recommended (A=4.0).** Please note that the CS + Education program requires a minimum GPA of 3.5.

6. **Eligibility for James Scholar Honors Program**

Transfer students who enter the College of Education in the fall with a minimum of a 3.50 GPA will be invited to participate in the [James Scholar Honors Program](#).

The following information is an overview of the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) requirements. These requirements only apply to programs preparing students for teacher education licensure in the state of Illinois.

All students entering licensure programs are working towards: (1) Completing degree requirements approved and administered by the University of Illinois; and (2) Completing licensure requirements governed by ISBE. Note: ISBE requirements are subject to change without notice at any time.

1. **MATH Standard (Elementary Education ONLY)**

To show proficiency in College Algebra and Statistics, all **Elementary Education** students must meet the criteria listed here: http://education.illinois.edu/docs/default-source/saao-documents/isbe_math_stnds.pdf. It is highly recommended that all students applying to the Elementary Education program have the College Algebra criteria (column 1) met at the time of application.

2. **Grades lower than a C-**

Students in teaching licensure programs must maintain a C- or better in ALL content/professional education coursework as well as any courses specified by degree program. Please contact our office for a list of courses applicable to this policy. **Courses with a grade of Credit/CR can be counted towards the 120-125 hours required to graduate but will not be allowed to meet degree requirements (e.g., General Education, Professional Education coursework, major requirements, etc.).**

3. **Criminal Background Check**

Criminal background checks are required for all students entering teaching licensure programs prior to field placements in school districts. For more information please see: <https://www.cote.illinois.edu/home/cote-policy-handbook/V-state-mandates/criminal-background-checks>

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4. Student teaching is completed only during the spring semester

5. Fewer than 36 College Credits

Students who have completed fewer than 36 graded, transferable semester hours of college coursework, post high-school completion, prior to application are evaluated primarily on the following criteria: grades in college, courses in college, high school academics, ACT or SAT scores (optional) and essays, with transfer admission preference given to students who would have been admitted as freshmen. [Click here for more information.](#)

6. Educator Licensure Information System (ELIS)

Prospective teaching licensure candidates must establish an ELIS account. Please see <https://www.cote.illinois.edu/current-candidates/licensure-faq/setting-up-an-elis-account-with-isbe> for details.

Computer Science + Education

Computer Science + Education: <http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/education/computer-science-education-bs/learning-sciences/>

The Computer Science + Education (CS+ Education) degree program is a joint program sponsored by the Department of Computer Science and the Department of Curriculum & Instruction.

- **Learning Sciences:** The Learning Sciences concentration focuses on how technology can be designed and developed to further education through the use of social media, virtual and augmented realities, data analytics, mobile and wearable devices, and more.

A cumulative **grade point average** of **3.50 or higher (A=4.00)** is **required for admission to Computer Science + Education**. However, a **minimum grade of A-** is **required for each Computer Science course taken**.

NOTE: Candidates in this program will require a minimum of three years at the University of Illinois to complete the CS+ Education degree requirements, regardless of transfer hours earned.

Coursework **Required** for Admission:

CS 124: Intro to Computer Science I¹
MATH 220: Calculus **or** **MATH 221:** Calculus I
MATH 231: Calculus II
PSYC 100: Intro Psych
RHET 105: Writing & Research²
Language Other Than English (3rd level)

Coursework **Highly Recommended** for Admission:

CS 128: Intro to Computer Science II
CS 173: Discrete Structures **or** MATH 213: Basic Discrete Mathematics
EPOL 201: Foundations of Education
EPSY 201: Educational Psychology

**Please note that any outstanding General Education and other course requirements may extend time to degree completion.

¹ CS 124, Intro to Computer Science I is preferred. If a transferable equivalent is not available, a transferable equivalent to CS 101, Intro Computing: Engrg & Sci may be substituted.

² At most institutions, the equivalent requires a two-course English composition sequence.

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Early Childhood Education

Early Childhood Education: <http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/education/early-childhood-education-bs/>

The Early Childhood Education degree program prepares students for Illinois Early Childhood licensure (birth through grade 2). The program also incorporates course work leading to an Early Childhood Special Education approval.

Admission to the Early Childhood program is available for **both fall and spring admission**.

Coursework **Required** for Admission:

RHET 105 – Writing and Research¹
Quantitative Reasoning I General Education Requirement

*Coursework **Recommended** for Admission:

Completion of transfer coursework equivalent to [University of Illinois General Education courses](#) (including the Language other Than English requirement) and program specific classes listed below is recommended. **Time to degree is determined by completion of program requirements via transferable coursework.**

Education Foundations

EPOL 201 – Foundations of Education (program approved equivalent)
EPSY 201 – Educational Psychology

ISBE Social Science Rubrics (select one course from each of the following categories)

ECON – Economics
GEOG/GGIS – Geography/Geography & Geographic Information Science
HIST – History
PS – Political Science

ISBE Earth and Space Science Class Requirement (click [here](#) for approved classes)

***Students with 60 transferable hours or more must have completed both the required and recommended courses.**

¹ At most institutions, the equivalent requires a two-course English composition sequence.

Early Childhood Professional Education

In compliance with the *Illinois Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity Act*, the College of Education will offer admission to students who have satisfied the following admission requirements:

- Are or were a member of the incumbent workforce currently working or having worked in the early childhood field.
- AA, AS, AAS or AT degree with major in Early Childhood Education from an approved Illinois community college. The degree must be completed prior to the first term of enrollment at UIUC.
- Gateways Level 4 Credential and current membership in the Gateways to Opportunity Registry
- Minimum GPA of **2.0**

The Early Childhood Professional Education Program is uniquely designed to offer coursework online, in the evening, and in an eight-week format to meet the needs of working professionals. Field and clinical experiences will be arranged to meet the geographic and logistical constraints of program participants. This program offers two professional tracks:

- **Licensure Track** - ECE bachelor's degree and Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) Professional Educator Licensure 0-2nd Grade and Gateways Level 5 Credential.
- **Non-Licensure Track** - ECE bachelor's degree and Gateways Level 5 Credential.

Applicants interested in admission based on the requirements established by *The Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity Act* should apply to the Early Childhood Education major and indicate their interest in the essay portion of the application. **For further questions, contact the Director of the Early Childhood Professional Education Program, Anne Pradzinski (apradz2@illinois.edu).**

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Elementary Education

Elementary Education: <http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/education/departments/curriculum-instruction/elem-school-tch/>

The Elementary Education degree program prepares students for Illinois licensure teaching grades 1-6.

Coursework **Required** for Admission:

RHET 105 – Writing and Research¹

College Algebra Standard

STAT 100 – Statistics or MATH 117 – Elementary Mathematics

*Coursework **Recommended** for Admission:

Completion of transfer coursework equivalent to [University of Illinois General Education courses](#) (including the Language other Than English requirement) and program specific classes listed below is recommended. **Time to degree is determined by completion of program requirements via transferable coursework.**

Education Foundations

EPOL 201 – Foundations of Education (program approved equivalent)

EPSY 201 – Educational Psychology

ISBE Math Requirement

Math 103 – Theory of Arithmetic

ISBE Social Science Rubrics (select one course in four of the following)

ANTH - Anthropology

ECON - Economics

GEOG/GGIS – Geography/Geography & Geographic Information Science

GLBL - Global Studies

HIST - History

PS - Political Science

PSYC - Psychology

SOC - Sociology

***Students with 60 transferable hours or more must have completed both the required and recommended courses.**

¹ At most institutions, the equivalent requires a two-course English composition sequence.

Learning and Education Studies

Learning and Education Studies (LES): <http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/education/learning-education-studies-bs/>

The Learning and Education Studies (LES) degree program focuses on the growing demand for knowledgeable workers who are prepared to lead in today's economy. This major that leads to a variety of careers in education, administration, technology, learning sciences and human resources. **This program does not lead to an Illinois Teaching License.**

Application to the Learning and Education Studies program is available for **both fall and spring semesters.**

Office of Undergraduate Admissions application and essay

All students applying to the [LES major](#) should demonstrate in their essay a commitment to one of the following three concentrations:

[Digital Environments for Learning, Teaching & Agency](#)
[Educational Equality & Cultural Understanding](#)
[Workplace Training & Development](#)

*Coursework **Required** for Admission:

PSYC 100 – Intro Psych

RHET 105 – Writing and Research¹

STAT 100 or a transfer course equivalent that satisfies a **Quantitative Reasoning I** General Education Requirement

General Education courses

Additionally, completion of transfer coursework equivalent to [University of Illinois General Education courses](#) (including the Language other Than English requirement) is recommended. **Time to degree is determined by completion of program requirements via transferable coursework.**

Cultural Studies: Non-Western Culture(s) – (General Education Requirement)

Cultural Studies: U.S. Minority Cultures – (General Education Requirement)

Cultural Studies: Western/Comparative Culture(s) – (General Education Requirement)

Humanities & the Arts – (General Education Requirement)

Language Requirement (see page 2)

Natural Sciences & Technology – (General Education Requirement)

A transfer course equivalent that satisfies a Quantitative Reasoning II General Education Requirement

***Students with 60 transferable hours or more must have completed both the required and General Education courses.**

¹ At most institutions, the equivalent requires a two-course English composition sequence.

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Middle Grades Education

Middle Grades Education: <http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/education/middle-grades-education-bs/>

The Middle Grades Education degree program prepares students for Illinois licensure grades 5-8.

Office of Undergraduate Admissions application and essay

All students applying to the Middle Grades major should demonstrate in their essay a commitment to one or more of the following four concentrations:

[Literacy](#)

[Math](#)

[Science](#)

[Social Science](#)

Coursework **Required** for Admission:

RHET 105 – Writing and Research¹
Quantitative Reasoning I

*Coursework **Recommended** for Admission:

Completion of transfer coursework equivalent to [University of Illinois General Education courses](#) (including the Language other Than English requirement) and program specific classes listed below is recommended. **Time to degree is determined by completion of program requirements via transferable coursework.**

Education Foundations

EPOL 201 – Foundations of Education (program approved equivalent)

EPSY 201 – Educational Psychology

Concentrations

At least two classes from each [concentration](#) desired

***Students with 60 transferable hours or more must have completed both the required and recommended courses.**

¹ At most institutions, the equivalent requires a two-course English composition sequence.

Special Education

Special Education: <http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/education/special-education-bs/>

This degree program prepares teacher candidates to work with individuals with varying disabilities and will lead to Illinois licensure to teach students with disabilities from kindergarten through age 21 in a range of settings. **Please note that transfer into the Special Education program is highly competitive due to space constraints.**

Application to the Special Education program is available for **fall admission only**.

Coursework **Required** for Admission

Completion of transfer coursework equivalent to [University of Illinois General Education courses](#) (including the Language other Than English requirement) and program specific classes listed below is required. **Time to degree is determined by completion of program requirements via transferable coursework.**

EPOL 201 – Foundations of Education (program approved equivalent)

EPSY 201 – Educational Psychology **or** PSYC 216 – Child Psych **or** HDFS 105 – Intro to Human Development **or** another approved course

PSYC 100 – Intro Psych **or** PSYC 103 – Intro Experimental Psych (General Education Requirement)

The SPED program has a 5-semester professional education sequence beginning in the spring semester. In the preceding fall semester, program specific courses SPED 117, KIN 262 & SHS 320 are completed, leaving room for 2-3 additional gen ed courses (other than those courses required for admission). To proceed to the professional education sequence, students must have successfully completed **ALL** degree requirements outside of the professional education coursework.

Hours Verification Form

As part of the admission process to the Special Education program, verification of a **minimum of 50 hours** of experience with students with disabilities is required and to be documented on the [Special Education Hours Verification form](#). Please read the form carefully and completely before submitting to the [Admissions/Records Officer](#).

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