

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION, BSE

The University of Wisconsin–Madison Elementary Education Program prepares teachers to foster high academic achievement in all students. Schools are places that can both increase equity and perpetuate injustice – ideas our students tackle as they learn to navigate the challenges and joys of teaching. Our graduates become teacher leaders committed to advancing justice through classroom practices, personal interactions, and community engagement. We teach research-based practices that keep teachers growing throughout long careers in education.

Practical, hands-on experience is built into our curriculum. At UW–Madison, our students learn to teach through exhilarating coursework, supervised field experiences at multiple grade levels, community-based experiences, rigorous self-examination, and authentic learning experiences. We are training teachers to recognize, appreciate and value the wide range of gifts diverse students bring to our increasingly multicultural, globally connected, and morally complex world.

“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

CERTIFICATION OPTIONS

Students interested in Elementary Education can pursue one of five dynamic certification options that lead to related, yet different, career paths. All certification options are designed to be completed in four semesters after program admission. Students are admitted once a year in the summer and begin a four-semester professional sequence in the fall.

- **Kindergarten through Ninth Grade** – 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** (<http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/education/curriculum-instruction/english-second-language-minor/>) **and** Kindergarten through Ninth Grade (<http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/education/curriculum-instruction/elementary-education-bse/elementary-education-kindergarten-9th-grade-bse/>) – 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 general education at the grade levels of K-9 (including eligibility for 4K) and English as a Second Language in grades K-12.
- **Early Childhood Education (ECE)** (<http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/education/curriculum-instruction/early-childhood-education-minor/>) **and** Kindergarten through Ninth Grade (<http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/education/curriculum-instruction/elementary-education-bse/elementary-education-kindergarten-9th-grade-bse/>) – A minor in Early Childhood can also be added to the core K-9 program. Students selecting this combination will be certified to teach general

- education at the grade levels of K-9 (including eligibility for 4K) and in Early Childhood Education from birth through Grade 3.
- **Kindergarten through Ninth Grade** (<http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/education/curriculum-instruction/elementary-education-bse/elementary-education-kindergarten-9th-grade-bse/>), **and** Early Childhood Education (<http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/education/curriculum-instruction/early-childhood-education-minor/>), **and** English as a Second Language K-12 (<http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/education/curriculum-instruction/english-second-language-minor/>) – 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: general education in grades K-9 (including eligibility for 4K), Early Childhood Education from birth through Grade 3, and English as a Second Language in grades K-12.
- **Kindergarten through Ninth Grade and Special Education K-12 (Dual Certification)** (<http://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 general education at the grade levels of K-9 (including eligibility for 4K), and Special Education in grades K-12.

THE TEACHER PLEDGE

The School of Education at UW–Madison currently offers a 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, students pledge to work at a Wisconsin PreK-12 school for three to four years after graduation.

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.