

Teach where you make a difference

Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) Certification and Master's Degree



Why this UWM program is right for you:

- Experienced Faculty: recognized leaders in the field of special education with expertise in urban teaching, inclusive education, language and literacy, curriculum, and assistive technology
- Urban Focus: culturally responsive teaching methods to reach students from diverse backgrounds
- Evening Classes: scheduling options which meet the needs of working professionals and adult learners
- Master's Degree Option: certification can be combined with a Master's Degree in Exceptional Education

To apply to this program, you will need:

- Bachelor's Degree from an accredited institution of higher education
- Undergraduate Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.50 or above
- Passing PRAXIS I test scores

Program Structure: (See back of this page for the typical sequence of courses in the two year program)

- Cohort Model: student groups move through the program together
- Field-based Teaching Experiences: extensive and supervised work in schools and classrooms
- Cross-categorical Certification: program content prepares students to teach all children with an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) or Individualized Education Program (IEP)

Teacher Certification: This program leads to certification in Early Childhood Special Education, DPI license subject 809.

Master's Degree Option: Individuals can earn certification and a Master's Degree through UWM's program. Once accepted into the Post-Baccalaureate program, if interested in the Master's Degree Option, apply to the Graduate School by the end of your second semester.

PRAXIS I Test: If you do not have an active 5-year Wisconsin Teaching License, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) requires that you pass the PRAXIS I Pre-Professional Skills Test (PPST) prior to admission into a teacher certification program. The Praxis I is an assessment in the areas of reading, writing, and math. The current minimum passing scores for the Praxis I computer and paper-based subtests are as follows: **Reading – 175 | Writing – 174 | Mathematics – 173.** For more information visit: <http://www.ets.org/praxis/>.

Typical Course Sequence for the TWO YEAR Certification Program In Early Childhood Special Education for Individuals With No Previous Education Certification

	SUMMER I	FALL I	SPRING I
YEAR I	() 3 EXCEDUC 630 Survey of Early Childhood Intervention () 3 EXCEDUC 570 Curriculum and Methods for Special Education: Primary () 3 EXCEDUC 649 ECSE Field Experience: Primary 9 Certification Credits	() 3 EXCEDUC 569 Curriculum and Methods for Special Education: Preschool () 3 EXCEDUC 648 ECSE Field Experience: Preschool () 3 CURRINS 302 Curriculum at the Pre-K level or CURRINS 602 Early Childhood Education 9 Certification Credits	() 3 CURRINS 330 Teaching of Mathematics: Early Childhood () 3 EDPSYCH 330 Introduction to Learning and Development 6 Certification Credits
	SUMMER II (With Master's Option)	FALL II (With Master's Option)	SPRING II (With Master's Option)
YEAR II	() 3 EXCEDUC 568 Curriculum and Methods for Special Education: Birth to 3 () 3 EXCEDUC 647 ECSE Field Experience: Birth to 3 6 Certification Credits 6 Graduate Credits	() 3 CURRINS 502 Developing Early Reading & Writing () 3 EXCEDUC 651 Working With Families in Urban Communities 6 Certification Credits 6 Graduate Credits	() 3 EXCEDUC 652 Developmental Evaluation of Young Children With Disabilities () 3 EXCEDUC 682 Language and Literacy in ECSE 6 Certification Credits 6 Graduate Credits
	SUMMER III - Master's Option	FALL III - Master's Option	Spring III - Master's Option
YEAR III	() 3 EXCEDUC 715 Issues and Trends in Special Education () 3 EXCEDUC 970 Seminar: Research in Special Education 6 Graduate Credits	() 3 EXCEDUC 815 Capstone Seminar () 3 Urban Education Foundations Course (choose one): ED POL 530, EXCEDUC 608, OR ED POL 705 6 Graduate Credits	() 3 EXCEDUC 990 Research or Thesis 3 Graduate Credits

Additional Requirements:

GPA Requirements: must earn a "C" or better in all courses with a 2.75 cumulative GPA required upon completion of program
Praxis II: the Elementary Education: Content Knowledge test must be completed successfully prior to final teaching experience
ACT 31: study of Wisconsin's American Indian history, culture, and tribal sovereignty satisfies Human Relations Requirement
Midpoint and Final Portfolio: demonstration of integrated Wisconsin teaching standards

Two Year Program is approximately 42 credits, a transcript evaluation determines the number of credits required

Application Process: The Post-Baccalaureate Application Packet can be found online at: www.exed.soe.uwm.edu. Submit an application at minimum four weeks prior to the semester of desired enrollment. Complete applications include:

- ◆ Passing Praxis I Scores
- ◆ Department of Exceptional Education Application and Checklist Form
- ◆ Official Transcripts
- ◆ Personal Statement
- ◆ Resume
- ◆ Two Letters of Recommendation
- ◆ University of Wisconsin System Electronic Application

ECSE applicants are interviewed within two weeks of submission of a complete application. Applicants are notified of acceptance within 14 days of interview completion. Contact us or visit our website for more information.

Visit the Department of Exceptional Education website: www.exed.soe.uwm.edu.

Contact the Department of Exceptional Education: 414-229-5251.