

BRIDGEWATER STATE COLLEGE

Transfer Guidebook

Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education

Nancy Witherell, Chairperson & Professor
Hart Hall, Room 120
Tel: 508-531-1243
nwithere@bridgew.edu



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Message from the Department Chairperson

Dear Student,

Congratulations on your choice to become an elementary or early childhood teacher. Teaching is a wonderful career. It takes intelligence, initiative, creativity, and patience to be an effective teacher. It also takes a broad base of content knowledge and confidence in the methodologies, the techniques and practices that teachers employ in the classroom. The Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education at Bridgewater State College is prepared to aid you on your journey to becoming a productive and effective teacher. Our School of Education is accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education, and we adhere to the high standards set by this national organization.

As you finish your Associate's degree, your path depends on the level and type of certification you seek. If you are an Early Education and Care Major, you are seeking EEC certification and can teach private school PreK-K. As you enter BSC, declare your major as Early Education and Care. If you plan to be licensed by the state Department of Elementary Education for either Early Childhood (PreK-grade 2) or Elementary Education (grades 1-6), you should be ready to take the first of three MTEL (Massachusetts Test for Educational Licensure) exams, Communication and Literacy. To prepare for the exam, do an internet search on MTEL and look at the practice tests for Communication and Literacy. If ready, register and take the initial exam. In addition, for public school licensure the State of Massachusetts requires that all Elementary and Early Childhood majors have a second content major. You will need to choose one of the content majors from the arts and sciences majors that we have listed in this booklet.

Our motto in the School of Education and Allied Studies is "First in Education, Second to None." You set your goal; we will help you get there. Begin by reading this booklet carefully. We look forward to having you in our program.

Sincerely,

Nancy Witherell, Ed.D.

Chair Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education.

Programs in Education

Majors in Elementary and Early Childhood Education Public School Licensure Programs

The majors of Elementary and Early Childhood Education are designed to lead to a Massachusetts PUBLIC SCHOOL license at the INITIAL LEVEL, or EEC certification for those students planning to teach in a private preschool or kindergarten. Students who complete the Elementary Education program and State requirements will be licensed as Elementary Teachers (Grades 1-6). Students who complete the Early Childhood Education program and State requirements will be licensed as Teachers of Children with and without Disabilities (Grades PK-2). Students who complete the Early Education and Care major will be certified by the Department of Early Education and Care.

1. Education Major Areas Requiring Licensure

The department offers public school licensure through the Massachusetts Department of Education (DOE) office of Elementary Education in two areas:

- a. Elementary Education (grades 1-6)
- b. Early Childhood Education (grades PreK-2)

2. Education Major Area (Early Education & Care Licensure)

The department offers an Early Education and Care Certification major (no public school licensure). The Early Education and Care major does not require a second major nor does it require passing the MTEs. This major prepares students for teaching PreK-kindergarten, private school.

Programs in Education Continued

Dual Licensure

In addition to the Elementary Education major, a five-year program offers licensure in both Elementary Education and Special Education. This program allows a student to graduate with an undergraduate degree in Elementary Education and a Masters degree in Special Education.

Note: Students pursuing public school licensure must choose a second major. Information can be found on page 6.

Professional Education Program Requirements for Elementary and Early Childhood Education

(Not for Early Education and Care Majors)

You should declare Elementary or Early Childhood Education as your major; however, you are not accepted into the Professional Education program until you meet the following requirements.

Admission to the Program:

1. Submit an application. Applications are distributed during your Introduction to Education course or from the School of Education (Hart Hall, Room 124).
2. Achieve a C+ or better in ENGL 101 (Writing I) and ENGL 102 (Writing II).
3. Obtain a 2.8 GPA at Bridgewater State College.*
4. Receive a passing score on the Communication and Literacy section of the Massachusetts Test for Educator Licensure (MTEL).
5. Submit two letters of recommendation from past college classroom instructors.
6. Complete forty hours of fieldwork. This fieldwork is part of ELED 220/ECED230 and must be approved by the instructor of the course. **Transfer Students NOTE:** If ELED 220 or ECED 230 is waived/substituted, you must submit documentation of at least 40 hours of fieldwork to the Chairperson of the Elementary & Early Childhood Education Department for review and acceptance.

Note: Until you have been admitted into the Professional Education Program, you cannot enroll in any upper level education courses.

*If a student does NOT meet the GPA requirement during his/her undergraduate years, he/she will not be able to enter the Professional Education program. However, if the student completes an undergraduate degree, he/she may still be able return to Bridgewater to study education as a Post Baccalaureate student after meeting specified requirements. For information about the Post Baccalaureate program, contact the Graduate School at 508-531-1300.

Additional Requirements

Candidates Must:

1. Maintain a minimum 2.8 GPA throughout the program.
2. Undergo a CORI (Criminal Record Investigation) by school districts in order to be allowed to volunteer in a school, do the 40 hours of fieldwork required prepracticum hours, or participate in a student-teaching practicum.
3. Pass all MTEs prior to taking the “education block” courses.
4. Complete a second major (page 7.)

Advising

The Elementary and Early Childhood Department holds drop in advising approximately two weeks prior to early registration. For dates and times, look for an announcement on the Web, in your Bridgewater e-mail, and posted in the department hallways. It is mandatory to meet with an advisor during this period. You will need to meet with an advisor from both majors to be cleared for registration.

Note: Early Childhood Education and Care Requirements can be found on page 12 .

Choosing a Second Major

LICENSURE CANDIDATES MUST CHOOSE A SECOND MAJOR IN THE LIBERAL ARTS OR SCIENCES

According to Massachusetts regulations, undergraduate students who wish to earn a Massachusetts teaching license in Elementary or Early Childhood Education must also have a major in the Liberal Arts or Sciences. At BSC undergraduate students can choose from among these majors:

Anthropology	Communication Arts	History	Physics
Art	Earth Sciences	Mathematics	Political Science
Biology	Economics	Music	Sociology
Chemistry	English	Psychology (Not recommended)	Spanish
Chemistry-Geology	Geography	Philosophy	

The following are **NOT** acceptable as second majors: Accounting & Finance, Aviation Science, Communication Disorders, Computer Sciences, Criminal Justice, Management Science, Physical Education, Special Education, or Social Work.

- We encourage licensure candidates to choose a second major in content taught in the Elementary schools, especially those who hope to teach in grades 4-6. In fact, according to the new law (No Child Left Behind), you must have a major in a content area (i.e., Mathematics, Science, History/Political Science, and English) if it is your main teaching load.

Note: Students will be expected to complete their second major before entering the education program.

Transfer Student Information

Transfer Course substitution for: ELED 220 Introduction to Elementary Education or ELEC 230 The Basics of Early Childhood Education

If you transferred in the equivalent of ELED 220 or ELEC 230, you may be eligible to have this requirement waived. Bring a course description and a copy of your transcript to the department for review. Licensure students will have to have 40 hours of a field-based experience (levels depend on license).

Core Requirements (Formerly known as GERs)

All students at BSC are required to take the Core requirements. Elementary Education and Early Childhood majors have specific courses that are required in order to meet Massachusetts Department of Education regulations. These regulations are identified below and can also be found in the college catalog, the course registration brochure, and <http://www.bridgew.edu/corecurriculum>. An overview of the Core Curriculum can be found on page 11 of this guidebook.

All Early Childhood majors are required to take PSYC224 or ELED 120, SPED 203 and SPED 211. However, we strongly recommend that Early Childhood majors take the Elementary Education Core, where possible, to help them prepare for the Content section of the MTEL. (Reminder: MTELS are not a requirement of the Early Ed and Care major.)

Note: As a transfer student, you may find that a course taken at your previous institution does not meet a required course for Elementary Education. If you wish to have a course considered as a substitute for the required course, you must complete a “Course Substitution Form” for the course and turn it in to the Elementary and Early Childhood Education office. Check this possibility with your advisor.

Transfer Student Information

Required [Elementary Education](#) Courses that also satisfy a Core requirement. When selecting Core courses in the areas of Humanities, Behavioral Sciences, Social Sciences and Math Reasoning, choose from the following:

Humanities:

- HIST 131 World History to 1500
- HIST 221 U.S. Hist. and Constitution to 1865
- ENGL 254 Literary Types

Behavioral Sciences:

- PSYC 224 Child Psychology or ELED 120 Child Study

Social Sciences:

- GEOG 151 – Human Geography
- POLI 172 Intro. to American Government

Mathematical Reasoning:

- MATH 112 Mathematics for Elementary Teachers I..... 3
- MATH 113 Mathematics for Elementary Teachers II..... 3
- MATH 114 Mathematics for Elementary Teachers III..... 3

Required [Early Childhood Education](#) Courses that also satisfy a Core requirement. When selecting Core courses in the areas of Humanities, Behavioral Sciences, Social Sciences and Math Reasoning, choose from the following:

Required Early Childhood Education Courses

Behavioral Sciences:

- PSYC 224 Child Psychology or ELED 120 Child Study

Multiculturalism:

- SPED 203 Cultural Diversity Issues in School and Society

Major Requirement:

- SPED 211 The Early Childhood Learner with Special Needs
- ELED 280 Creative Techniques in Early Childhood

If you transferred in a course that is in the same category as an Elementary or Early Childhood Education Core requirement, you may substitute the course that you transferred in for the required Core Course. Below is a list of the most common transfer course substitutions:

Transfer Course Substitutions for Required Core Courses

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Required Courses for Education	Course to be used for substitution:
Choose one: PSYC 224, PSYC 227, ELED 120	PSYC 100
ENGL 254	ENGL 211, 212, 214, 221, 222, 231, 232, 233, 241, 251, or INTD 211H
HIST 131	HIST 111, HIST 112, HIST 121, HIST 124, HIST 132, INTD 211 or HIST Western Civilization Core
HIST 221	HIST 222 or HIST Core, U.S. History and Constitution. Note: You must have a Constitution course.
MATH 112, 113, 114	Course substitutions will be made on a case by case basis. See Dept. Chairperson.
GEOG 151	Core Courses in the same discipline

If a course substitution is not showing up on your degree audit in the education area, you must fill out the necessary form and submit it to the Chair of the Elementary and Early Childhood Department.

If a course is not showing up on your degree audit in the area of your second major, you must fill out the necessary form and submit it to the Chairperson of your second major.

If a course is not showing up on your degree audit under the Core requirements, you must fill out the necessary form and submit it to the Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences.

All forms can be obtained from the Registrar's Office at: <http://www.bridgew.edu/registrar/forms.cfm>

Core Curriculum Guide at a Glance

Courses that fulfill this skill area may only be used once.

1. ENGL 101 Writing I (ENG 11)
2. ENGL 102 Writing II (ENG 12)
3. PHIL 111 Philosophy (PHL 11)
4. Mathematical Reasoning (College Level Math)
5. Spoken Communication (SPH 10, 11)

Courses taken to fulfill the areas below may fill more than one requirement. Ex. World History satisfies a “Humanities, Global & Multicultural” requirement.

6. First Year Seminar
(Waived if you transfer 24 or more credits).
 7. Second Year Seminar
(Waived if you transfer 54 or more credits).
 8. Fine & Performing Arts
 9. Fine & Performing Arts
 10. Humanities
 11. Humanities
 12. Humanities
 13. Natural Sciences with Lab
 14. Natural Science with/without Lab
 15. Social & Behavioral Science
 16. Social & Behavioral Science
 17. *Writing Intensive (Transfers may appeal)
 18. *Writing Intensive (Transfers may appeal)
 19. *Writing/Speaking Intensive
 20. Global Culture
 21. Global Culture
 22. Multiculturalism
 23. Application of Quantitative Skills or Second
Mathematical Reasoning
 24. U.S. Constitution
- *Writing/Speaking Requirements – See Transfer 101, pg. 15 on the Transfer Central Web site.

CLEP - The College-Level Examination Program provides students with the opportunity to demonstrate college-level achievement through a program of exams in undergraduate college courses. For more information visit Bridgewater’s testing center at: <http://www.bridgew.edu/TestingServices/clep.cfm>

Early Education and Care, PreK-K Program (EEC Certification)

This 30-credit concentration is designed specifically for those seeking an early childhood baccalaureate program that concentrates on preschool rather than school-age children. This program does not lead to public school licensure. Candidates for a BSE in Early Childhood Education with a concentration in Early Education and Care, PreK-K **are not required to have a second major or** take the State MTEL exams required for public school licensure. This concentration satisfies all current and projected requirements for Lead Teacher certification from the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care. Additional coursework can be taken to qualify for Infant Teacher or Director certification.

Students must declare Early Childhood Education with a concentration in Early Education and Care, PreK-K, as their major in order to be admitted to the program and assigned an adviser in the department. Various health and background checks are required for some field-based activities.

Early Education and Care Requirements:

1. A total of 120 credits are needed to earn a baccalaureate degree at Bridgewater State College.
 2. Candidates must complete all college Core requirements.
 3. A GPA of 2.5 in the major is needed prior to placement in a field experience. Multiple field experiences are required throughout the program.
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Early Education and Care, PreK-K Program (EEC Certification)

The following courses are required for the Early Education and Care Concentration:

Cognates:

PSYC 224 Child Psychology
SPED 203 Cultural Diversity Issues in School and Society
SPED 211 The Early Childhood Learner with Special Needs

One of the following:

SOCI 203 - The Family
PSYC 230 - Cross-Cultural Psychology
SCWK 334 - Intervention with Family Systems
COMM 365 - Introduction to Intercultural Communication
or a college course equivalent to one of the courses listed above

The following education courses:

ECED 230 – The Basics of Early Childhood Education
ECPK 320 – Language Development and Early Literacy, PreK-K
ECPK 321 – Project-Based, Standards-Rich Learning in Early Childhood, PreK-K
ECPK 322 – Observation and Assessment in Early Childhood, PreK
ECPK 323 – Managing Positive Environments for Children, PreK-K
ECED 280 – Creative Techniques in Early Childhood
ECPK 490 – Mentored Program Observation, PreK-K
ECPK 491 – Mentored Performance Fieldwork I, PreK-K
ECPK 492 – Mentored Performance Fieldwork II, PreK-K

Frequently Asked Questions

Who majors in the Elementary or Early Childhood Education Licensure or Certification programs?

These programs are designed for students who wish to become licensed as an Elementary School Teacher, as a Teacher of Children with and without disabilities or as an Early Education and Care Teacher. In other words, upon graduation, those who study Elementary Education would be able to accept a job as a regular classroom teacher (Grade 1-6). Those who study Early childhood Education would be able to accept a job as a regular classroom teacher (PK-2) — this includes teaching in an Integrated Preschool. Those who major in Early Education and Care may accept a position in a preschool or private kindergarten setting. ***These programs are not for students who wish to teach at the middle school level or for students who wish to be specialists in art, music, physical education or special education.***

How long will the program take?

Both the State Department of Education undergraduate licensure programs for Elementary and Early Childhood Education programs are designed as full-time, **day** programs. The Early Education and Care major can be done day or night. Full-time students should be able to complete their programs in 4 years. This, of course, is not a guarantee. All ELED and EC state licensure education courses are offered every semester during the day. No education courses for these programs are offered during the summer sessions. **Note:** Your second major and Core requirements may be completed in the evening and during the summer. Selective Early Education and Core courses may be offered during the summer.

Will I get a job when I graduate?

The job market in both Elementary and Early Childhood Education in Massachusetts is very competitive. This means you need to find ways to stand out. Select a liberal arts or science major that is content based (mathematics, science, English, history or political science). Principals want teachers with a deep understand of content – even for those who teach young children. Study – a good GPA does help people notice you. Get involved with children as a tutor, mentor, coach or teacher. Experience with children really does make a difference – both in your student teaching and in getting a job!

Frequently Asked Questions

Will I need to go back to school?

Yes. For Department of Education licensure upon graduation and the completion of state requirements, you will be granted an INITIAL teaching license, which is valid for 5 years of public-school employment. You will need to continue your education to earn a PROFESSIONAL License. Although not necessary, most teachers turn their Initial License into a Professional License by completing a Masters program. Also, teachers' pay is typically based on college degrees – so this is another good reason to go back to school!

How can I learn more about this program?

If, after you read this pamphlet, you still have questions, please contact Dr. Nancy Witherell, Chair, Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education at nwitherell@bridgew.edu

Office Locations

Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education - Hart Hall, Room 122. Go through the front of the Moakley Center and continue through the extension hallway. You are now in Hart Hall. The department office is on the right.

Dean of the School of Education and Allied Studies - The office of Dr. Anna Bradfield, Dean of the School of Education and Allied Studies, Hart Hall, Room 124. As soon as you enter Hart Hall (small lounge area on left), take a left and the office is located on the right.

Elementary and Early Childhood Education Faculty Offices - Faculty offices are located in two areas: 1) Past the Dean's office into what is a "cull de sac" of offices, and 2) near the Elementary Education main office.

Academic Achievement Center - The AAC is located on the bottom floor of the Maxwell Library. You can pick up declaration of major forms, change of major forms and double major forms in the AAC.

Transfer Central - Boyden Hall, Room 104.

Transfer Resources

BSC Transfer Website www.bridgew.edu/transfercentral

- BCC Transfer Website www.bristolcc.edu/students/transfer/
- Application for Admissions www.bridgew.edu/Admissions/applybsc.cfm (online) www.bridgew.edu/Admissions/Forms/admissions_app.pdf (print)
- Core Curriculum Advising Guide www.bridgew.edu/CoreCurriculum
- Bridgewater Equivalency and Articulation Report System (B.E.A.R.S.)
(Best accessed by visiting BSC Transfer Central website listed above)
- Transfer Guidebook for Mass. Public Higher Education
www.stcc.edu/coop/pdf/transfer_guidebook.pdf

E-mail Accounts—Activate your BSC Account

You will receive notices and important information via email. Email is the official means of communication at BSC. To activate your e-mail account, go to www.bridgew.edu and select account registration from the drop down menu on the left-hand side.

BRIDGEWATER STATE COLLEGE

Nancy Wiitherell, Chairperson
Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education
Hart Hall, Room 122
508-531-1243

Sandy Christoun, Transfer Coordinator
Transfer Central, Academic Affairs
Boyden Hall, Room 104
508-531-2625


Organization
