

Masters in Education leading to Professional License (Elementary or Early Childhood)

Turning your Initial License into a Professional License

The Massachusetts Initial Teaching License is valid for five years of employment. Within five years of using your initial license, teachers must have a Professional Teaching license. According to the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, one of the steps to turn your Initial license into a Professional license is to earn an *APPROPRIATE* Masters degree. The DESE defines this degree as a Masters in Elementary or Early Childhood Education with at least 50% content courses. Teachers may enroll in either a Masters for Education – Elementary or Early Childhood (leading to Professional License or Early Childhood Education}.

The Masters in Education leading to a Professional License

The Masters in Education in Elementary Education or in Early Childhood Education was designed to meet the requirements of the DESE for Professional Licensure. **Basic Admission Requirements:** Undergraduate GPA of 2.8 and an Initial Massachusetts Teaching license (and MTELEs passed that were required for your initial license). You do NOT need to take the GREs.

We are pleased to offer the professional license programs with two possible concentrations. One concentration is in STEM Education. The other concentration is on the Application of Technology in the Elementary Classrooms. The concentrations would be listed on your M.Ed transcript. Details about these concentrations can be found near the end of this document.

Additional Information

Masters courses are offered primarily during the evening (typically at 4:45 PM) and, on occasion, on weekends. Some courses are offered completely online or in hybrid format (partial online and partial face-to face). Many Masters candidates are classroom teachers who take one or two courses per semester. The expectation is that you will have your own classroom by the time you take your final, capstone course in your program (if you don't have your own classroom, you must have access to an elementary or early childhood classroom where you can influence some changes in that classroom so you can meet the program requirements of that final, capstone course).

Your First Step – Apply to the Graduate Admissions Office:

You must have an Initial Teaching License in either Elementary Education or Early Childhood Education. To be admitted, candidates must meet the following criteria: 1) an Initial Teaching License (proof that you have passed all required MTELEs for your initial license), 2) an undergraduate GPA of at least 2.8; and 3 “highly recommended” letters of recommendations. **Candidates are NOT required to submit GRE scores if they previously passed the MTELEs required for their initial license.** For more information and an application, go to <http://www.bridgew.edu/admissions/graduate/apply>

Candidates are allowed to enroll in two courses prior to admission into the program. However, you are required to meet with your advisor during the first semester of courses that you are admitted into your program. Please note: Courses taken at another institution may not align with our program and therefore may not count towards your M.Ed. at BSU (check with your advisor or the Graduate Coordinator before taking a course to make sure they will meet program requirements).

NOTE: To register for courses for the first time, BEFORE you are accepted into a program, you will need to go online to apply as a non-degree student: <https://www.bridgew.edu/grad-non-degree>. There is no fee. Once processed, you will be able to register for classes.

Program Advising

Once admitted to the program, you will receive a letter from the Graduate School. It will indicate who your advisor is. You MUST reach out to meet with your advisor at the start of the semester you are admitted into the program. At this meeting, you will complete required documentation and will go over your program of study. Although you can register for courses for the semester you are officially admitted, you MUST meet with your advisor. This is your connection to your advisor. Call him/her and make an appointment. This must be done as soon as you receive confirmation from the Grad School that you have been admitted. After that meeting, your advisor will contact the Graduate School to release you for future registration of courses (an electronic hold will be placed for any additional registration of courses until you have met with your advisor and released for registration).

Once you are admitted into the program and have met with your advisor, registration is easy and on-line. If you have any questions prior to being admitted, please contact Dr. Steven Greenberg, Graduate Program Coordinator, sgreenberg@bridgew.edu.

The Masters Program (leading to Professional Licensure)

The Masters in Education is 30 credits (10 3-credits courses). The course requirements for both the Masters for Elementary Education and Early Childhood Education are the same. However, you should focus your projects and fieldwork at the grade levels appropriate to your licensing level. According to the DESE, you must enroll in a Masters program that is in the same licensure area as your initial license.

There are 3 strands of Graduate programs from which to choose:

1. M.Ed in Elementary *or* Early Childhood levels Leading to Professional License
2. M.Ed in Elementary level Leading to Professional License with a concentration in STEM Education.
3. M.Ed in Elementary level Leading to Professional License with a concentration in the Application of Technology in Elementary Schools.

For all 3 strands:

The following EDMC courses may be taken in any order

- EDMC 530 The Teacher as Researcher
- EDMC 531 Standards-based Classroom: Curriculum
- EDMC 532 Teacher as Leader: Issues to Advocacy
- EDMC 533 Standards-based Classroom: Instruction/Assessment for Diverse Learners

Choose the appropriate capstone course:

- *ELED 554 Graduate Seminar in Elementary Education* **OR**
- *ECED 575 Graduate Seminar in Early Childhood Education*
 - 554 is for elementary and 575 is for early childhood candidates
 - This capstone course must be taken in the last semester of your program. It can be taken either alone or along with one other program course. **The Capstone course is offered in the fall and spring only.

To find out when the EDMC courses are offered, go to the BSU web page, click on “Infobear”, click on “available course sections”, then select a subject “Education – Masters CORE”. For Elementary or Early Childhood, select Elementary or Early Childhood for the subject. Course offerings listed on-line typically available at the beginning of November (for Spring courses) and at the beginning of April for Fall courses and Summer courses.

For the M.Ed in Elementary or Early Childhood Education Leading to Professional License (our program WITHOUT any concentration):

- 5 “Content” Electives – Acceptable electives at BSU have Liberal Arts or Sciences prefixes, such as, READ (Reading), PHYS (Physics), MATH or MATC (Mathematics), BIOL or BIOF (Biology), ARTS (Art), HIST (History), and ENGL (English). There are some ELED courses that will meet these requirements.

Candidates are required to have the permission of their advisor to enroll in any of the content elective courses to make sure that the selected course is considered “appropriate” according to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education guidelines.

Candidates do not need to request permission from their advisor for the following courses.

These courses have been pre-approved.

Choose any five (5):

- ___ Content elective: PHYS 597 Special Topics in Elem. Science
- ___ Content elective: ELED 567 Contemporary Teach Math Techn. offered spring only
- ___ Content elective: ELED 560 Special topics in Elem. Science: [Science in the World.](#) – offered spring only
- ___ Content elective: ELED 521 Differentiated Instruction in the Elementary Classroom – offered fall only
- ___ Content elective: ELED 522 Science & Engineering Practices in the Elementary Classroom– offered summer only
- ___ Content elective: ELED 508 Technology in STEM – offered fall only
- ___ Content elective: ELED 500 Digital Media in Elementary Schools – offered summer only
- ___ Content elective READ 570 Special Topics in Reading – offered spring and fall semesters
- ___ Content elective READ 545-x01 Global Literacies (elementary) - offered fall semester only
- ___ Content elective: READ 546-001 :New Literacies for Internet Comprehension - offered spring semester only
- ___ Content elective: READ 550-001: Improving Literacy Instruction – offered spring and fall semesters
- ___ Content elective: Other (prior approval by advisor)

___ NOTE: We have been working to respond to our students’ requests to offer more courses specifically for elementary and early childhood levels. The ELED courses listed above will meet the requirements of the program. Check Infobear to confirm which courses are offered in any given semester.

Note: You are limited to two of any one content area. If you take a topics course, you may take another topics course with the same course number as long as it is a different topic (then it is considered a different course). Also, Reading courses 551-569 are **not** appropriate for the Masters for elementary or early childhood programs.

Course registration is typically at the beginning of November (for Spring courses) and at the middle of April for fall courses and summer courses.

At the end of the Masters program, all candidates must pass an oral Comprehensive Examination. The Comprehensives are scheduled and discussed in your final capstone course.

ADDITIONAL NOTE: When you enter the program, if you do not have your own elementary or early childhood classroom, you should begin your program slowly. One course per semester would be wise until you get your own classroom. When you get to the end of your program, you will be taking the capstone course. To be successful in this course, you really need your own classroom or have access to an elementary or early childhood classroom (depending on your licensure level) in a public school classroom within Massachusetts (this would be a regular ed classroom that would be during the regular school day during the regular school year). It would be in this classroom that you would work to satisfy the course requirements for the capstone course.

NEW EFFECTIVE FALL 2019:

Graduate students may now apply to live in the dorms during their program. For more information, please contact Residence Life and Housing at 508-531-1277.

We are pleased to offer the professional license programs with two possible concentrations. **One concentration is in STEM Education. The other concentration is on the Application of Technology in the Elementary Classrooms.**

The concentration would be listed on your Graduate transcript.

The number of credits (30) are the same regardless of you electing to do the professional license program or if you elect to do the program with a chosen concentration. There are ten 3—credit courses and a one credit Graduate Program Planning experience.

The following courses may be taken in any order, except for ELED 554 or ECED 575, which must be taken in the last semester of your program. It can be taken either alone or along with one program elective.

- EDMC 530 The Teacher as Researcher
- EDMC 531 Standards-based Classroom: Curriculum
- EDMC 532 Teacher as Leader: Issues to Advocacy
- EDMC 533 Standards-based Classroom: Instruction/Assessment for Diverse Learners

Choose one:

- *ELED 554 Graduate Seminar in Elementary Education* **OR**
- *ECED 575 Graduate Seminar in Early Childhood Education*
 - 554 is for elementary and 575 is for early childhood candidates
 - This capstone course must be taken in the last semester of your program. It can be taken either alone or along with one final program elective (if you completed our undergraduate “Double-Degree program”, you can take the capstone course alone, or along with up to two final program electives). **The Capstone course is offered in the fall and spring only. #

If you have an interest in the STEM Education or Application of Technology in Elementary Classrooms concentrations, the program would be very similar to the the regular M.Ed in Elementary Education leading to Professional License. The difference would be in the selection of content electives. Instead of selecting content electives from multiple content areas, 4 of the 5 content electives would be in your chosen area of concentration.

- For Candidates selecting the **Application of Technology in Elementary Classroom concentration**, the list of courses that would satisfy concentration requirements:
 - ELED 567 Mathematics for Teachers PreK - Grade 6
 - ELED 521 Differentiated Instruction in the Elementary Classroom
 - ELED 560 Science and World Around Us (topics course)
 - ELED 500 Digital Media in Elementary Schools
 - ELED 508 Technology and STEM Education

- For Candidates selecting the **STEM Education concentration**, the list of courses that would satisfy concentration requirements:
 - ELED 522 Science and Engineering Practices
 - ELED 567 Mathematics for Teachers PreK - Grade 6
 - ELED 560 Science and World Around Us (topics course)
 - ELED 508 Technology and STEM Education
 - PHYS 597 Special Topics in Elementary School Science (topics course)

Notes:

* At the start of your first semester in the graduate program, all candidates must register for GRPP501, Graduate Program Planning (1 credit)

** content courses must be selected from a pre-approved list of courses for the chosen concentration or with pre-approval from program advisor.

Has a 60-hour field experience for candidates who are not classroom teachers in the semester the capstone course is taken. If the candidate is the teacher of record for an elementary classroom, they may use their classroom for this field experience.

To do the Masters in Elementary Education leading to Professional License WITH a concentration, you need to select this program when you complete your application to the College of Graduate Studies. You would choose from the two concentrations, *STEM Education* or *Application of Technology in the Elementary Classroom*. Each concentration has a different application code (link on the online application). If you previously applied to the Masters in Elementary Education leading to Professional License but did not choose a concentration, you may elect to request your application be amended to include your chosen concentration. You would need to fill out a change of program concentration form that can be found at:

<https://my.bridgew.edu/departments/CoGS/Shared%20Documents/Writable%20Forms/Change%20of%20Program%20Concentration%20Request%20January%202018.pdf>

As you plan out your program, we want you to have a schedule of when courses will be offered. Of course, things can change so be sure to check either InfoBear or contact your advisor.

Fall

ELED 508 Technology and STEM Education

ELED 521 Differentiating Instruction in the Elementary Classroom

Spring

ELED 567 Mathematics for Teachers PreK- Grade 6

ELED 560 Science and the World Around Us (topics course)

Summer

ELED 500 Digital Media in the Elementary Classroom

ELED 522 Science & Engineering Practices

Any questions about our program, please feel free to contact your Graduate advisor or the Graduate Coordinator:

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