

ELEMENTARY AND KINDERGARTEN EDUCATION, B.S. (BERKS)

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: Berks

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary and Kindergarten Education, a minimum of 129.5 credits is required for the Early Childhood Teaching Option and a minimum of 122 credits is required for the Elementary Education Teaching Option:

Requirement	Credits
General Education	45
Electives	0-3
Requirements for the Major	101-117

27-30 of the 45 credits for General Education are included in the Requirements for the Major. This includes: 6 credits of GS, 6 credits of GQ, 6 credits of GH, and 9 credits of GN courses for both options. The Early Childhood Teaching option permits 3 credits of GHW.

See also Teacher Education Programs (<https://ed.psu.edu/academics/teacher-testing-certification>).

Requirements for the Major

A grade of C or better per course is required for teacher certification.

Common Requirements for the Major (All Options)

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better for teacher certification</i>		
AED 303	The Visual Arts in the Elementary School	3
CI 295	Introductory Field Experience for Teacher Preparation	2
CI 495B	Clinical Application of Instruction - Middle Level Education	3
CI 495D	Practicum in Student Teaching--Childhood and Early Adolescent Education	12
CI 495F	Professional Development Practicum	3
EDPSY 14	Learning and Instruction	3
ENGL 100	English Language Analysis	3
KINES 126	The Health Program for the Elementary School Child	1.5
LLED 400	Teaching Literacy in Early Childhood	3
LLED 401	Teaching Literacy in Elementary School	3
LLED 402	Teaching Children's Literature	3
MATH 200	Problem Solving in Mathematics	3
MTHED 420	Teaching Mathematics In The Elementary Schools	3

MUSIC 241	Music for Classroom Teachers	3
SCIED 458	Teaching Science in the Elementary School	3
SPLED 400	Inclusive Special Ed Foundations: Legal, Characteristics, Collaboration, Assessment, and Management	3
SSED 430W	Teaching Social Studies in the Elementary Grades	3

Additional Courses

Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better for teacher certification

EDTHP 115	Education in American Society	3
or EDTHP 115A Competing Rights: Issues in American Education		
HIST 20	American Civilization to 1877	3
or HIST 21 American Civilization Since 1877		
Select one of the following:		3-4
EDPSY 101	Analysis and Interpretation of Statistical Data in Education	
STAT 100	Statistical Concepts and Reasoning	
STAT 200	Elementary Statistics	

Select one of the following:		3
ECON 14	Principles of Economics	
ECON 102	Introductory Microeconomic Analysis and Policy	
ECON 104	Introductory Macroeconomic Analysis and Policy	
Select one of the following:		3
GEOG 20	Human Geography: An Introduction	
GEOG 30N	Environment and Society in a Changing World	
GEOG 122		
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GEOG 124	Elements of Cultural Geography	
GEOG 126	Economic Geography	
GEOG 128	Geography of International Affairs	
GEOG 320	Urban Geography: A Global Perspective	

Supporting Courses and Related Areas

Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better for teacher certification

Select 3 credits in literature GH	3
Select 9 credits: 3 credits each (including one course with a lab) from the following GN biological science, earth science, and physical science	9

Requirements for the Option

Requirements for the Option: Require a grade of C or better for teacher certification

Select an option	16.5-30
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Requirements for the Option

Early Childhood Teaching Option (27-30 credits)

Available at the following campuses: University Park

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
CI 495A	Clinical Application of Instruction - PK-4	1
ECE 451	Instruction in Early Childhood Education Derived from Development Theories	3
ECE 452		3
ECE 453	Parent Involvement in Home, Center, and Classroom Instruction	2

ECE 454		3
ECE 479	The Young Child's Play as Educative Processes	3
Additional Courses		
HDFS 315	Family Development	3
or SOC 30	Sociology of the Family	
HDFS 428	Infant Development	3
or HDFS 429	Advanced Child Development	
HPA 101	Introduction to Health Services Organization	3
or NUTR 251	Introductory Principles of Nutrition	
PSYCH 100	Introductory Psychology	3-6
& PSYCH 212	and Introduction to Developmental Psychology	
or HDFS 229	Infant and Child Development	

Elementary Education Teaching Option (16.5-19.5 credits)*Available at the following campuses: Altoona, Berks, University Park*

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
KINES 127	The Physical Education Program for the Elementary School Child	1.5
Additional Courses		
Select one of the following:		3-6
EDPSY 10	Individual Differences and Education	
HDFS 229	Infant and Child Development	
PSYCH 100	Introductory Psychology	
& PSYCH 212	and Introduction to Developmental Psychology	
Supporting Courses and Related Areas		
Select 3 credits in MATH or MTHED		3
Select 6 credits of the following:		6
EDTHP at the 400 level		
ECE at the 400 level		
SPLED at the 400 level		
EDLDR 405	Reimagining Classroom Management	
EDLDR 497	Special Topics	
LLED 497	Special Topics	
Select 3 credits in U.S. History		3

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/>) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required and Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- Quantification (GQ): 6 credits
- Writing and Speaking (GWS): 9 credits

Breadth in the Knowledge Domains (Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- Arts (GA): 3 credits
- Health and Wellness (GHW): 3 credits
- Humanities (GH): 3 credits
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS): 3 credits
- Natural Sciences (GN): 3 credits

Integrative Studies

- Inter-Domain Courses (Inter-Domain): 6 credits

Exploration

- GN, may be completed with Inter-Domain courses: 3 credits
- GA, GH, GN, GS, Inter-Domain courses. This may include 3 credits of World Language course work beyond the 12th credit level or the requirements for the student's degree program, whichever is higher: 6 credits

University Degree Requirements**First Year Engagement**

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement

6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits

A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work

Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition

The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or

within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/>)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.