

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION, B.EL.ED.

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: Harrisburg

Career Paths

Elementary and middle-level teachers introduce children to learning through the basics of numbers, language, science, and social studies. They facilitate classroom activities to meet the needs and abilities of their students. They also work with children independently and in small groups. They provide instruction, conduct assessments, listen to presentations, and maintain a positive classroom climate. They individually meet with families and faculty and serve on faculty and community committees. Elementary and middle-level teachers also become supervisors, administrators, and mentors to new teachers.

Careers

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, overall employment of kindergarten and elementary school teachers is projected to grow 7 percent from 2016 to 2026, about as fast as the average for all occupations. Rising student enrollment should increase demand for kindergarten and elementary teachers, but employment growth will vary by region. The number of students enrolling in public kindergarten and elementary schools is expected to increase over the coming decade, and the number of classes needed to accommodate these students should rise. As a result, more teachers will be needed to teach public kindergarten and elementary school students.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL CAREER OPTIONS FOR GRADUATES OF THE ELEMENTARY EDUCATION PROGRAM (<https://harrisburg.psu.edu/behavioral-sciences-education/teacher-education/elementary-education-beled/career-opportunities>)

Opportunities for Graduate Studies

Additional graduate study is available, including graduate certificates in ESL, Special Education, the Master of Education in Teaching and Curriculum, and the Master of Education in Literacy Education.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES (<https://harrisburg.psu.edu/behavioral-sciences-education/teacher-education>)

Professional Resources

- Pennsylvania Department of Education (<https://www.pa.gov/agencies/education>)