
WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

College of Education

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

~THREE OPTIONS~

OPTION I: General Elementary Education Program

You will be certified to teach

- Kindergarten-5 in all subjects,
- Grades 6-8 in second and third minors.
- Kindergarten-8 in all subjects when teaching in a self-contained classroom-one in which the majority of instruction is provided by a single teacher.

For this option you must select **two** of the following minors. Some of the minors require careful planning in order to proceed efficiently.

- Elementary and Middle School Mathematics
- Elementary Language Arts
- Elementary Integrated Science
- Elementary Social Studies

OPTION II: Elementary Education plus Early Childhood (ZA) Endorsement

You will be certified to teach

- Kindergarten-5 in all subjects,
- Grades 6-8 in second and third minors.
- Kindergarten-8 in all subjects when teaching in a self-contained classroom-one in which the majority of instruction is provided by a single teacher.
- Early Childhood Specialist (ZA: pre-school/young fives programs) endorsement-requires 2 extra courses and an extra one-half semester (6 credit) internship is required.

For this option you must select **two** of the following minors. Some of the minors require careful planning in order to proceed efficiently.

- Elementary and Middle School Mathematics
- Elementary Language Arts
- Elementary Integrated Science
- Elementary Social Studies

OPTION III: Specific Program Majors

You may select one of the following major and minor combinations:

- 1) Physical Education major – Elementary **or** Early Childhood Education minor

For this program, you will receive teacher certification in grades Kindergarten-12 in your major, grades Kindergarten-5 in all subjects, and grades Kindergarten-8 in all subjects when teaching in a self-contained classroom. A self-contained classroom is defined as one in which the majority of instruction will be provided by one teacher.

- 2) Art major – Elementary **or** Early Childhood Education minor
- 3) Music major – Elementary **or** Early Childhood Education minor
- 4) Speech Pathology and Audiology major – Elementary **or** Early Childhood Education minor

(Certification awarded upon completion of Master's degree in Speech Pathology)

These three majors require admission to the specific program, and you must contact the appropriate area. You will receive teacher certification in grades Kindergarten-12 in your major area, Kindergarten-5 in all subjects, and Kindergarten-8 in all subjects when teaching in a self-contained classroom. A self-contained classroom is defined as one in which the majority of instruction will be provided by one teacher.

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PRE-EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS PURSUING **ELEMENTARY EDUCATION**

All undergraduate students who declare a preference for a curriculum leading to a teaching certificate will be assigned to the pre-education program at the time of admission. The primary purpose of this pre-program designation is to identify students who intend to enter the teaching profession. This permits the College of Education's Office of Admissions and Advising to monitor each student's progress toward certification.

Students seeking admission to the *Professional Elementary Education Program* must complete the following requirements:

- 35 credit hours
- All WMU Intellectual Skills Development courses **if required** ~See *College of Education advisor*~
- An approved college-level writing course
- **ED 2500**, Human Growth and Development, or an approved equivalent course, with a grade of "C" or better
- A cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or better
- Passing scores on the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification (MTTC) - Basic Skills section
- **Must** complete a livescan criminal background check at the time of admission.
- Submit a College of Education admissions application

**APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION,
OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS AND ADVISING, 2504 SANGREN HALL.**