Special Education: Early Childhood Special Education Initial Licensure

In order to be recommended for your Minnesota k-12 Special Education: Early Childhood Special Education, you must successfully complete the following licensure requirements.

Required Coursework

A student/teacher candidate must (a) attain a B (3.0) average across all licensure coursework completed prior to the semester of student teaching and (b) attain a minimum grade of B- in each of these individual courses.

Common Content Courses

- CI 5307: Technology for Teaching and Learning (1.5 cr)
- EPSY 5001: Learning, Cognition, and Assessment (3 cr)
- OLPD 5005: School and Society (2 cr)
- OLPD 5009: Human Relations (1 cr)

Licensure Content Specific Courses

- CI 5645: Methods for Teaching English Learners (3 cr)
- MTHE 5355: Mathematics for Diverse Learners (3 cr) or EPSY 5619: Specialized Interventions for Students with Mild to Moderate Disabilities in Mathematics (3 cr)
- EPSY 5609: Family-Centered Services (3 cr)
- EPSY 5613: Foundations of Special Education (3 cr)
- EPSY 5614: Assessment and Due Process in Special Education (3 cr)
- EPSY 5616: Classroom Management and Behavior Analytic Problem Solving (3 cr)
- EPSY 5618: Specialized Interventions for Students with Mild/Moderate Disabilities in Reading and Written Language (3 cr)
- EPSY 5625: Education of Infants, Toddlers, and Preschool Children with Disabilities: Introduction (2 cr)
- EPSY 5631: Module 1: Introduction to Augmentative and Alternative Communication (1 cr)
- EPSY 5681: Education of Preschool Children with Disabilities: Methods and Materials (3 cr)
- EPSY 5682: Education of Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities: Methods and Materials (1 cr)
- EPSY 5705: Practicum in ECSE / Elementary settings (1 cr)
- EPSY 5761: Student Teaching in Early Childhood Special Education for Children Aged Three to Five Years (3 cr)
- EPSY 5762: Student Teaching in Early Childhood Special Education for Children Aged Birth to Three Years (3 cr)
- EPSY 5699: Experimental Teaching Seminar (2 cr)

Clinical and Field Experiences

Field experience for UMN Twin Cities teacher candidates is an intentionally planned part of each licensure program. In order to be recommended for licensure, candidates in the special education early childhood special education program must complete 105 hours of course-based field work prior to student teaching. This program culminates with 24 weeks of full-time student teaching.

See reverse for testing, assessment information, and license application information.
Minnesota State Licensure Testing and Assessments

MTLE (Minnesota Teacher Licensure Examinations)

Minnesota Professional Educator and Licensing Boards (PELSB) requires that you take and pass the MTLE (Minnesota Teacher Licensure Examinations) content and pedagogy tests for your MN tier 3 license. Information (registration, study materials) on the required MTLE tests specific to your license area(s) can be found at our MTLE support website.

edTPA (Education Teacher Performance Assessment)

You must successfully complete and submit your edTPA portfolio, as stipulated by PELSB, before being recommended for your MN teaching license. edTPA is introduced in your program method courses, and you will complete it in conjunction with your student teaching. Follow the instructional documents available at our edTPA resource website.

Submitting Your Minnesota License Application

Once the above requirements are confirmed complete (via APAS, MTLE, and edTPA official reports), you must submit your complete Minnesota teaching application to the Office of Teacher Education (OTE). You must follow the teacher licensure application process instructions. OTE licensing team reviews your license application, and once verified that all of the requirements are complete, we send your application packet to the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board (PELSB). This usually takes about two weeks, but can take longer during the busy summer season. PELSB typically takes 8-12 weeks to process a license; you can look up your license progress online through PELSB’s website.