

Announcing Scholarships for the Online Early Childhood Bilingual/ESL Graduate Certificate Program

Erikson Institute is pleased to announce a special scholarship for current early childhood (pre-k through third grade) teachers in community organizations and schools. The scholarship covers 50 percent of tuition expenses for the 18 credit-hour Early Childhood Bilingual/ESL Certificate Program.

Overview

Erikson Institute, a national leader in child development, early childhood education, and teacher training, offers the Early Childhood Bilingual/ESL Graduate Certificate Program in an online format.

Through course work and reflective practice seminars, faculty members with experience as early childhood educators help teachers prepare to meet the special needs of new language learners in a culturally, linguistically, and developmentally appropriate manner. The program can be completed in 16 months and is approved by ISBE's Division of Professional Certification.

This program prepares teachers to seek early childhood bilingual and/or ESL endorsement from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). Please note that while Illinois state teacher licensure is not required for admission to the certificate program, only licensed teachers can apply for ISBE bilingual and/or ESL endorsement.

Program Highlights

Generous scholarship support: The scholarship is available to all teachers who work or plan to work in high-need community organizations or schools. Valued at \$503 per credit hour, the scholarship is equivalent to the Illinois Gateways to Opportunity Scholarship amount, and covers roughly 50 percent of tuition expenses. Tuition typically increases slightly each year. If you meet all eligibility requirements, you may also have access to a variety of low-interest federal loans to help finance the remaining tuition and other non-tuition related expenses.

In order to determine eligibility for the scholarship and/or federal loans, you must submit the 2017–18 FAFSA application no later than April 15, 2017.

Convenient format: All courses will be taught online. We will give you a thorough orientation to the online environment before you start, and technical support will be available by email and phone if you need it.

Commitments

- You will take two classes per semester.
- You will spend 6 to 8 hours a week, in addition to the online class time, completing readings and writing papers.
- You will be responsible for a one-time \$150 matriculation fee, any portion of tuition not covered by the scholarship, and approximately \$900 *per year* for student services fees, books, and supplies.

Admission Information

The program will begin in May 2017 and will be completed in August 2018. The program is designed specifically for early childhood teachers (pre-k through third grade) working in public, charter, and private schools or community organizations.

“Being part of the Erikson community changed the way I see my students, myself, and my peers. In addition to learning about the instructional aspects of bilingual education, I learned to value and support people who are different from me.”

— Joshua Bluestone, Class of 2016, early childhood / elementary school teacher

Admission requirements

- A bachelor’s degree with a minimum 2.75 GPA on a 4-point scale
- Completion of an Erikson application for admission with a brief personal essay, available at www.erikson.edu/apply
- Submission of official, sealed transcripts of all previous college-level work
- Two letters of recommendation submitted electronically through the online application system
- Interview by a member of the Erikson faculty
- If English is not your first language or if you completed your undergraduate degree at a university where the curriculum was not taught in English, you must submit official Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or International English Language Testing (IELTS) scores

The application deadline for the receipt of all materials is **Saturday, April 15, 2017**. We strongly recommend that you submit all application materials before this date since scholarships will be awarded on a rolling basis.

For more information

For questions about the admission process, please contact Maggie Murphy at MMurphy@erikson.edu.

For questions about the certificate program, please contact Luisiana Meléndez at LMelendez@erikson.edu.

Course Work for Bilingual/ESL Graduate Certificate Program (18 credits required)

Summer 2017

T408 Foundations of American Schooling and Bilingual Education (3 credits)

B402 Language Development in New Language Learners (3 credits)

Fall 2017

B406 Methods and Materials for Teaching New Language Learners I (2 credits)

C432 Family and Culture (3 credits)

Spring 2018

B404 Assessment of New Language Learners (2 credits)

B407 Methods and Materials for Teaching New Language Learners II (2 credits, two-semester course)

Summer 2018

B405 Emergent Literacy with New Language Learners (3 credits)

B407 Methods and Materials for Teaching New Language Learners II (continued from spring term)

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