

Pivot your career to become an early childhood educator

with an Initial Professional Educator License



Program Specifics

24 Credit Hours

Learning Format:



Campus

Program Length:
Full-Time: 12 months

Session Start Date:
Summer Term

Post-Master's Early Childhood Educator Licensure Program

Complete your Initial Illinois Professional Educator Licensure program to prepare for teaching young children.

This intensive year-long program is open to students who have a master's degree in a discipline similar to education or child development. This licensure program meets the requirements for initial Illinois Professional Educator Licensure with an endorsement in Early Childhood Education (birth to second grade). The program is inclusive of one year of student teaching.

With over 50 years of experience in early childhood education, our licensure program will allow you to make an impact on the lives of young children. Evolving family structures, the nation's strong labor market, and growing research on the importance of brain development in early education are creating early childhood teacher shortages. Employment of early educators is projected to grow by double digits by 2026. Receive the training you need at Erikson Institute to fill these in-demand roles.

Career Opportunities

Erikson's licensure program is suitable for early childhood and early elementary educators working in a variety of settings and roles, including: preschools; early child-care programs; public schools; private and charter schools; and social service agencies.

Why Erikson?

- As an admitted certificate student, you may be eligible for federal student aid.
- Access to dedicated advisors, library, student services, job board, and career workshops.
- You can choose to take additional coursework in preparation for optional endorsements to your teaching license including the LBS1 and Early Childhood Special Education letter of approval, the Bilingual and/or ESL endorsement through the Illinois State Board of Education.



Illinois has been expanding opportunities for our youngest school children with new full-day PreK classrooms in Chicago Public Schools and across the state. Erikson institute is uniquely positioned to prepare professionals who understand young children’s development and desire to learn methods of teaching that empower racially, culturally, and linguistically diverse children to love and excel in school.”

Gillian Dowley McNamee, PhD
Professor, Director,
Teacher Education Program



We Can Help

Erikson awards over \$2 million in scholarships and grants each year. Scholarship dollars are awarded for the entirety of the program. Scholarship and grant eligibility are contingent upon admission and completion of a FASFA. Additional criteria may apply. For the most up to date information on scholarships and financial aid, contact www.erikson.edu/finaid. Our dedicated financial aid staff can help you learn about the options available to you.

Our Mission

Erikson Institute educates, inspires, and promotes leadership to serve the needs of children and families so that all can achieve optimal educational, social, emotional, and physical well-being.

The Erikson Approach

Knowledge

Learn how children develop and the complex contextual factors that shape their development.

Practice

Elevate and sharpen your skills that directly apply to your existing and future career positions.

Reflection

Develop your reflective practice skills in each of your courses.

A high-quality education that meets your needs



Erikson culture

Small class sizes and easy access to faculty foster strong learning relationships.



Faculty expertise

Our professors are scholars and advocates for the benefit of children and families.



Industry knowledge

Erikson has over 50 years of experience in early childhood education and child development.

Erikson Institute

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