

Serve diverse children & families

with an Early Childhood Bilingual/ESL Graduate Certificate



Program Specifics

18 Credit Hours

Learning Format:



Online

Program Length:

Part-time: 16 months

Session Start Dates:

Fall Term

Early Childhood Bilingual/English Second Language (ESL) Certificate Program

Prepare to work with linguistically diverse students in a program focused solely on supporting the language and academic development of children from birth to second grade. For teachers who wish to continue to work or seek employment in an early childhood Bilingual or ESL program, the program meets the Illinois State Board of Education requirements for a bilingual and/or ESL endorsement. This graduate certificate can also enhance the preparation of early childhood professionals working with emergent bilinguals or multilinguals and their families in other settings.

The certificate program culminates in a two-semester reflective practice seminar. In this seminar and in collaboration with peers and a faculty mentor, you will examine issues pertaining to your particular professional practice with linguistically diverse children and their families.

Career Opportunities

Early Childhood Bilingual/ESL Graduate Certificate graduates come from and continue to practice in a variety of settings and roles such as: preschools, early child care programs, public schools, private and charter schools, and social service agencies. Graduates can also consider careers as: child development specialist, early childhood program director, and curriculum coordinator.

Why Erikson?

- The two-semester reflective practice seminar prepares you to make an impact in your professional setting and practice.
- As an admitted certificate student, you may be eligible for federal student aid.
- Add to your credentials with a bilingual or English as a Second Language endorsement. Because each state has its own standards for Bilingual and/or ESL endorsement/approval, you should contact the Board of Education in the state where you plan to teach for its requirements.
- Access to dedicated advisors, library, student services, job board, and career workshops.



Understanding the developmental and learning implications of growing up with more than one language is essential for practitioners working with young bilingual or multilingual children and families.”

Professor Luisiana Meléndez, PhD, Director, Bilingual/ESL Certificate Program



We Can Help

Let us help you work towards your dream career. Erikson awards over \$2 million in scholarships and grants each year to our degree and certificate program students. Scholarships 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, visit 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 within a culminating project and seminar.

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.



100% online

Learn anytime, anywhere, on any device.

Erikson Institute

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