

Meet the learning and developmental needs of diverse learners

with an Early Childhood Special Education Certificate



Program Specifics

18 Credit Hours

Learning Format:



Online

Program Length:

2 years

Session Start Date:

Fall Term

Early Childhood Special Education Certificate Program

Erikson's Early Childhood Special Education graduate certificate will prepare early childhood educators to meet the learning and developmental needs of diverse learners, including those with disabilities and developmental delays.

This specialization will enhance teachers' practice in assessment, instruction, and collaborating with families. Students will be prepared for many positions, including blended general/special education classrooms, inclusive classrooms, and itinerant special education teaching positions.

Our online certificate program is designed for candidates who have completed a bachelor's degree, with or without licensure (Professional Educator License). Candidates should currently work in early childhood learning environments and seek to develop expertise in special education for working with children from preschool through 2nd grade.

For Illinois licensed teachers, administrators, or other school professionals seeking to add the special education endorsements for birth through 2nd grade; specifically, the LBS1 (kindergarten-2nd grade) and Early Childhood Special Education Letter of Approval (birth-preschool) you may be able to complete the program in less than 18 hours. Candidates must pass the LBS1 content test to add the LBS1 endorsement to their PEL.

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.
- Expand your expertise beyond this certificate to one of our master's degree programs.
- Develop close and collaborative relationships with faculty from many disciplines.



Erikson Institute's Special Education certificate program can enhance your teaching practice by preparing you to understand individual children's strengths and needs with the confidence to implement teaching and learning strategies that can help every child succeed."

Pamela Epley, PhD,
Associate Clinical Professor

Career Opportunities

Graduates of our Early Childhood Special Education Certificate program will be prepared to work with career titles such as: special education teacher; itinerant special education teacher; early childhood education teacher; center or program director; educational coordinator; parent coordinator; or, childcare home provider.

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/financialaid. 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.



100% online

Learn anytime, anywhere, on any device.

Erikson Institute

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