

Advocate for children and families

with skills developed
with a Master of Science
in Child Development &
Master of Jurisprudence
in Children's Law and Policy

Program Specifics

56 Credit Hours

Learning Format:



Campus and Online

Program Lengths:

Full-time: 28 months or 3 years

Session Start Dates:

Fall or Spring Term



Master of Science in Child Development & Master of Jurisprudence in Children's Law and Policy

This dual degree in partnership with Loyola University Chicago School of Law's Civitas ChildLaw Center, allows students to earn two credentials and better serve children and families by deepening your knowledge of family law and policy. Take your career to the next level with the knowledge you gain about child development and law and policy. The two-semester policy internship is designed to help you identify and address gaps and inequalities in systems and services for children and families.

You will earn an MS in Child Development from Erikson Institute and an MJ in Children's Law and Policy from Loyola University of Chicago. You will need to apply to both programs and be accepted. You will be able to select four electives at Loyola's law school.

Erikson offers unique opportunities via our Policy & Leadership department for Dual Degree students such as lunch & learns, workshops, policy briefings and internships. Access to our nationally recognized leadership team provides insights into our initiatives to improve the lives of children, families, and communities.

Why Erikson?

- Save time and money by earning two master's degrees at once.
- We offer flexibility with on campus and online courses.
- Immersion Weekends at Loyola and the Children, Family, and Law Summer Institutes help you enhance your learning, network with other students and faculty, and guest speakers, and connect with alumni.
- Learn more about policy related careers from a variety of policy leaders at our Annual Policy Mentoring Roundtable.
- Access to dedicated advisors, academic writing support, library, career services and student services.
- Add to your experience with optional endorsements and credentials such as the Illinois Gateways to Opportunity Early Care and Education (ECE) Credential.



I chose Erikson over other institutions because the dual degree program really stood out to me. I have gained a deeper, more expansive understanding of children and now feel more equipped to not only answer questions from parents, but to make informed choices about addressing the needs of children.”

Natalie Dowdell
Erikson Institute
MS/MJ '19

Career Opportunities

Graduates of our dual degree program can consider careers in government agencies and departments, court and probation systems and services, public and private schools, hospitals and health care systems, and community-based child and family support non-profits.

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, 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 through a two-semester internship.

Reflection

Develop your reflective practice skills in our Integrative Seminars.

A high-quality education that meets your needs



Program flexibility

Attend full or part time.



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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Erikson Institute reserves the right to change without notice any statement in this publication concerning, but not limited to, rules, policies, tuition, fees, curricula, and courses.

PROGRAM ACCREDITATIONS AND APPROVALS: Erikson Institute is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, 230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500, Chicago, Illinois 60604-1411, (800) 621-7440, www.hlcommission.org. Erikson's Master of Social Work program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education, www.cswe.org.