

# Erikson at a glance

## Mission

Erikson Institute is an independent institution of higher education that prepares child development and family service professionals for leadership. Through its academic programs, applied research, and community initiatives, Erikson advances the ability of practitioners, researchers, and decision makers to improve life for children and their families. It is a catalyst for discovery and change, continually bringing the newest scientific knowledge and theories of children's development and learning into its classrooms and out to the community so that professionals serving children and families are informed, inspired, and responsive.

## History

In 1966, four prominent child advocates—child psychologist Maria Piers, businessman and philanthropist Irving B. Harris, educator and activist Barbara Taylor Bowman, and social worker Lorraine Wallach—launched a program to provide early childhood teachers and caregivers with a comprehensive education in child development and a clear understanding of the role of family and culture in a child's life. They knew that quality early education and care could help children succeed, especially those children at risk for academic failure and social harm. And they knew that the better educated the adult, the better the outcomes for the child. More than 40 years later, Erikson Institute, named after the German-born psychoanalyst Erik Erikson (1902–94), remains both a pioneer and leader in the preparation of early childhood professionals.

## Academic programs

Thirty-six full- and part-time faculty teach the approximately 210 masters, 15 doctoral, and 50 certificate students enrolled in Erikson's academic programs:

- M.S. in Child Development
- Online M.S. in Early Childhood Education
- M.S. in Early Childhood Education leading to initial early childhood teaching license
- M.S. in Child Development/M.S.W. in Clinical Social Work\*
- Ph.D. in Child Development\*
- Irving B. Harris Infant Specialist Certificate Program
- Irving B. Harris Infant Mental Health Certificate Program
- Online Early Childhood Bilingual/ESL Certificate program

*\*In collaboration with Loyola University Chicago.*

## Continuing education programs

An additional 2,000 working professionals participate annually in Erikson's year-round courses, workshops, and seminars. Erikson also offers customized on-site staff development. Continuing education programs and consulting are research based and focus on

- Early intervention
- Teaching and learning
- Infancy (online courses)

## Center for Children and Families

The Center offers family-centered assessment and treatment for developmental, emotional, behavioral, and learning issues. Staffed by an interdisciplinary team of therapists, psychologists, developmental and behavioral pediatricians, and social workers, it is a unique resource for infants and young children.

The logo for Erikson Institute, featuring the word "erikson" in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font. The letter "i" is stylized with a blue dot above it.

graduate school in child development

## Community engagement

Erikson faculty and research associates are committed to serving the Chicago community, including the Chicago Public Schools (CPS), with initiatives such as

- Austin Family, School, and Community Partnership
- Chicago Healthy Children
- Early Mathematics Education Project
- Fussy Baby Network
- Illinois Department of Children and Family Services Early Childhood Unit
- Illinois Community Colleges' Early Childhood Faculty Development in Early Math
- New Schools Project
- Ounce Scale, developmental assessment of toddlers

## Research initiatives

Erikson's Herr Research Center for Children and Social Policy conducts original research, evaluations, and analysis to inform, guide, and support effective early childhood policy. Erikson's full-time faculty and research associates also conduct applied research. Projects include

- Apprenticeships
- Assessment in Early Childhood Classrooms
- Developing Early Childhood Teachers' Competence in Early Literacy Instruction with Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Children
- Early Head Start: National Research Study and Local Program Evaluation
- Educating Early Childhood Teachers About Diversity
- Illinois Early Intervention System Social-Emotional Component Evaluation
- Infant Crying and Developmental Outcomes
- Predicting Early School Performance for Young Children with Disabilities
- Predicting Infant Health Care Use
- Promoting Parent-Professional Partnerships in Early Childhood Special Education
- Promoting Parent Self-Efficacy

## All funds budget

\$20 million

[www.erikson.edu](http://www.erikson.edu)

## Accreditation

Erikson is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association.

## Alumni

Erikson's more than 1,800 alumni serve children and families in every capacity. Among our graduates are

- Louise Beem, cofounder, DuPage Children's Museum, and founder, early childhood care and education program at College of DuPage
- Carol Brunson Day, former president, National Black Child Development Institute
- Leon Denton, manager of Head Start, Salvation Army Child Care Program
- Chipu Dyanda, dean of the faculty of education, University of Zimbabwe
- Toby Herr, founder, Project Match
- Pat Manning, director of Child Life and Family Education, University of Chicago Medicine Comer Children's Hospital
- Molly McGrath, director of Baltimore City Department of Social Services

Roughly 70 percent of our alumni work in the Midwest. Five percent work outside the United States.

## Tuition & Fees, 2012–13\*

Application Fee	\$50 (nonrefundable)
Master's Matriculation Fee	\$150 (nonrefundable)
Certificate Matriculation Fee	\$70 (nonrefundable)
Tuition	\$880 per credit
Student Services Fee	\$600 for academic year

\* *Tuition and fees cited apply to Erikson Institute only. Loyola tuition and fees for dual degree and Ph.D. students are billed separately by Loyola University Chicago. Please visit [www.luc.edu](http://www.luc.edu) for current rates.*

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