Early Childhood Education

The Early Childhood Education (ECE) program prepares students for a career in organizations that provide structured learning and support services for children ranging from birth through age eight. This program is not intended to provide teacher certification. Students wishing to pursue teacher certification should explore the Elementary Education program. The Bachelor of Applied Science in Early Childhood Education is designed to be a continuation of the A.A.S. in Early Childhood degrees (or equivalent) offered at accredited community colleges. Early Childhood Education is offered in the following locations: Sierra Vista, Pima County, Douglas, Santa Cruz County, Yuma County, Online.

What are the Requirements to Enter the Program?

The Early Childhood Education program requires a supplemental program application in addition to admission to The University of Arizona. The entrance requirements include:

- Minimum 2.5 GPA in your college coursework
- Resume
- Goal Statement
- AZ Fingerprint Clearance Card (IVP)
- AAS degree in Early Childhood Education or related field (recommended)

Please contact us if you have any questions about the transferability of your credits, your admissibility to the program, or the application process. For full application instructions, please visit [http://uas.arizona.edu/admissions](http://uas.arizona.edu/admissions).

Sample Courses in the Program

**473C: Teaching Early Childhood Creative Arts and Physical Education**

Developmentally appropriate methods and techniques for teaching creative arts and physical education to young children from toddler through grade 3. Students will design, implement, and evaluate creative arts and physical education lessons appropriate for use in the early childhood setting.

**TEDV 482 – Early Childhood Language and Literacy**

Analysis of young children’s initial language development, early literacy development, and use of oral and written language as applied to teaching and learning. Students will develop a conceptual framework to foster optimum language and literacy development environments and developmentally appropriate strategies for children birth to grade 3.

**TEDV 474: Teaching Exceptional Children in Early Childhood**

This course focuses on the developmental characteristics and quality practices for typical and atypical behaviors of young children.

About Faculty:

**Laurie Seder, Ph. D.**

Assistant Professor, Teacher Education | Interim Program Director, Elementary Education & Early Childhood Education

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Dr. Laurie S. Seder, holds a doctorate in Special Education and Rehabilitation as well as a Master’s degree in Educational Psychology from The University of Arizona. Her Bachelor of Arts degree is in Special Education from Arizona State University. Her academic research interests include reading disabilities; general education supports for children with disabilities in inclusive classrooms, and developmentally appropriate practices for early childhood environments.
“The U of A South’s education program provided me with the most challenging and at the same time, the most hugely rewarding experience of my academic life. The well-rounded program offered a welcoming environment and sound guidance, as well as supportive professors, mentors, and staff. With their encouragement, I maintained my passion for learning and determination to pursue a bachelor’s degree in education.” – Lupita Pena

Average Job Salary Range

As more students pursue their degree in Early Childhood Education, there is a growing need to illuminate the best career paths in the field:

- Childcare/Daycare Worker: $16,200 - $19,400
- Child Care Service Director/Owner: $25,910 - $77,150
- Early Childhood Program Director: $22,000 - $69,000
- Nonprofit Organization Youth Organizer: $18,000 - $40,000
- After School Program Director: $27,700 - $43,800
- Distance Learning Coordinator: $41,000 - $76,700
- Executive Director, Nonprofit Organization: $40,000 - $150,000


Career Outlook

Potential Career Areas:
- Birth to Age 8 teaching (non-certified positions)
- After-school program and coordination
- Teaching assistance
- Curriculum development
- Social work

Sample Employers:
- Preschools
- Daycare and learning centers
- Public, private, and charter schools
- Governmental agencies
- Nonprofit and for-profit educational organizations

Questions?

For more information, reach out to a UAS representative.

You can find one in your area by visiting our website at:

http://www.uas.arizona.edu