The Department of Early Childhood and Childhood Education offers Minor to Masters programs that lead to NYS initial teaching certificates:

- New York State Initial Teacher Certification in Early Childhood Education (Birth to Grade 2) with/without a bilingual extension
- New York State Initial Teacher Certification in Childhood Education (Grades 1-6) with/without a bilingual extension

Contact Information

For more information about the Minor to Masters programs, you can contact any department advisor. A schedule of open office hours for advisors can be picked up in front of B-07 Carman Hall or you can call 718-960-8167 for information.

You can also contact:
- Nancy Dubetz, Childhood Minor to Masters Program Coordinator, nancy.dubetz@lehman.cuny.edu
- OR
- Frances Rofrano, Early Childhood Minor to Masters Program Coordinator, frances.rofrano@lehman.cuny.edu

Application Process

Applicants are required to choose either the Early Childhood or Childhood program when applying.

The application process includes:
- Written application
- Two evaluations of your academic skills and dispositions toward teaching and working with others.
- An on-site writing sample
- An interview
- Submission of SAT or ACT scores

Benefits

Fast Track to Certification: 24 credits of certification coursework at the undergraduate level and only 30 credits of coursework at the graduate level

Personalized Advisement: Each student receives regular, personalized advisement from an ECCE advisor to ensure s/he meets certification requirements.

Strong Preparation to Teach Special Populations of Children: Includes coursework for teaching English language learners and children with special needs:

(1) all required coursework for a bilingual extension; and

(2) 9 credits of special education coursework as part of the program that can be applied to an advanced certification in special education.

Supervised Experiences Teaching in Urban Schools and Early Childhood Settings: Program has partnerships with urban settings where fieldwork and student teaching can be completed.

Support in Preparing for Mandatory New York State teaching exams, Teaching Performance Assessments (edTPA), and Workshops.

Opportunities for Financial Support: For undergraduates, financial aid can cover costs of tuition for eligible candidates. At the graduate level, Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) grants cover tuition costs for eligible candidates.
Undergraduate Coursework (24 credits)

Prerequisite Foundation Courses:

- ECE 301 The Child in Context Birth to Grade 6
- ECE 302 Children, Families, Communities in Sociocultural Context Birth to Grade 6
- ECE 304 Foundations of Early Language and Literacy Development, Birth to Grade Two
- ECE 311 The Teaching Profession Birth to Grade 6

Coursework in Senior Year:

- ECE 427 Methodology of Teaching of English to Speakers of Other Languages (can be applied toward bilingual extension)
- ECE 435 Bilingualism for Classroom Teachers Birth to Grade Six (can be applied toward bilingual extension)
- DEC 437 Art Methods in Childhood Grades 1-6
- DEC 438 Methods of Math in Childhood Settings, Grades 1-6

Graduate Coursework (30 Credits)

- EDS 707: The Childhood Student with Disabilities (can be applied toward advanced certificate in special education)
- EDE 717: Learning/Teaching Science in Childhood Settings - Grades 1 to 6
- EDE 740: Studies in the Teaching of Elementary Mathematics
- EDE 758: Intensive Teaching Internship & Seminar I
- EDE 713 OR EDE 738 Literacy in Childhood Settings OR Literacy in Childhood Bilingual Settings (can be applied to bilingual extension)
- EDE 714 OR EDE 738 Social Studies in Childhood Settings OR Social Studies in Bilingual Childhood Settings (can be applied toward bilingual extension)
- EDS 709 Curriculum and Instructional Practices for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Childhood Students with Disabilities in Inclusive Settings (can be applied toward advanced certificate in special education)
- EDS 7433 Behavioral Assessment, Management and Change (can be applied toward advanced certificate in special education)
- EDE 783 Student Teaching Seminar
- EDE 782 OR 784 Student Teaching Supervision
- EDE 756 Teacher as Researcher

Note: NYS certification requires the satisfactory completion of this coursework as well as mandatory workshops and passing scores on NYS teaching exams.

Program Overview

The Minor to Masters programs allow students to complete 24 credits of education coursework (12 credits of 300 level coursework and 12 credits of 400 level coursework) at the undergraduate level. This coursework satisfies important prerequisite requirements for a 30-credit graduate program strand that begins once all undergraduate degree requirements are completed and bachelor’s degree is awarded.

You can only apply to one program: Childhood or Early Childhood. Students have the option to apply for the bilingual extension or advanced certification in special education when they enter the graduate part of their program. The bilingual extension can be completed without additional coursework, but the special education advanced certificate will require additional coursework.

Eligibility

To apply or a Minor to Master’s Program, you must have met the following requirements:

1. Overall GPA of 3.0
2. Completed or completing the following foundational coursework with a 3.0 average: ECE 301, ECE 302, ECE 304 & ECE 311.
3. Junior status
4. Declaration of an academic major in a liberal arts discipline.
5. Completed or completing NYSED general liberal arts requirements with a grade of C or higher.

Required NYSED core liberal arts categories (all 4 areas are required):

- Written Expression: two courses in English (generally ENG 111 and 121 or equivalent)
- Math: Two courses in Mathematics approved by an ECCE program coordinator (e.g., MAT 123)
- Scientific Processes: Two courses in natural science
- Concepts of Social Science & History: Two courses in the Social Sciences

Optional NYSED liberal arts core categories (coursework in at least one optional category is required). NYSED optional core categories include: foreign language, artistic expression, humanities, communication, and information retrieval.

Note: Most of these liberal arts courses also fulfill requirements for a bachelor’s degree.

Undergraduate Coursework (24 credits)

Prerequisite Foundation Courses:

- ECE 301 The Child in Context Birth to Grade 6
- ECE 302 Children, Families, Communities in Sociocultural Context Birth to Grade 6
- ECE 304 Foundations of Early Language and Literacy Development, Birth to Grade Two
- ECE 311 The Teaching Profession Birth to Grade 6

Coursework in Senior Year:

- ECE 427 Teaching of English as a Second Language (can be applied toward a bilingual extension)
- ECE 436 The Young Child and the Arts, Birth to grade 2
- ECE 435 Bilingualism for Classroom Teachers, Birth-Grade 6 (can be applied toward a bilingual extension)
- ECE 438 The Young Child and Music, Birth to grade 2

Graduate Coursework (30 Credits)

- EDC 713 OR EDC 738 Literacy Development in Early Childhood Settings , Birth-grade 2 OR Literacy-in Bilingual/Bicultural early Childhood Settings, Birth –grade 2 (can be applied to bilingual extension)
- EDC 714 OR EDC 739 Social Studies Concept Development in Early Childhood Settings, Birth-grade 2 OR Social Studies Concept Development in Bilingual/Bicultural Early Childhood Settings, Birth-grade 2 (can be applied toward bilingual extension)
- EDS 702 The young Child with Special Needs (can be applied toward advanced certificate in special education)
- EDS 704 Curriculum & Instruction for Culturally Diverse/Special Needs (can be applied toward advanced certificate in special education)
- EDC 715 Mathematical Concept formation in Early Childhood Settings Birth--grade 2
- EDC 717 Developing Science Concepts in Early Childhood Settings, Birth –grade 2
- EDS 743 Behavioral Assessment Management and change (can be applied toward advanced certificate in special education)
- EDC 795 Student teaching/Intern Seminar
- EDC 790, EDC 781 OR EDC 784 Intern Student Teaching Supervision
- EDC 756 Masters Project

Note: NYS certification requires the satisfactory completion of this coursework as well as mandatory workshops and passing scores on NYS teaching exams.