

University Child Development Center



A Quality Learning Community

UCDC is a campus-based childcare center serving the University of Missouri—St. Louis campus and surrounding community. UCDC is a fully accredited, licensed learning laboratory dedicated to reflecting best practices in teaching children and supporting families of young children. UCDC provides high quality programming for children and their parents and operates as a “Lab School” for our early childhood teacher candidates, so children benefit from an abundance of caring, professional staff and eager, creative student interns. The center serves children of UMSL faculty, staff, students attending UMSL, and families from the surrounding communities.

UCDC provides superb programming for children and their parents. Children benefit from an abundance of caring, professional staff and eager, creative student interns. UCDC provides full and half-day care for children ages 6 weeks to 5 years of age (or before a child attends kindergarten).

Licensing and Accreditation

The Center is licensed by the Missouri Department of Health, Division of Maternal, Child and Family Health. UCDC meets state and national standards for exemplary childcare. The Center achieved accreditation through the Missouri Board for Voluntary Accreditation in October 1990 and re-accreditation in December 1993. In March, 2011 the Center received Accreditation from the National Early Childhood Program Accreditation.

Anyone who visits the UCDC will see what we mean when we say every minute in a young child’s life is a teachable moment. For the infants, toddlers and pre-kindergarteners in our program, days at UCDC are filled with meaningful learning experiences from start to finish.

Our Early Childhood Education interns in the UCDC gain from experiencing the fundamentals of teaching in a first-rate, licensed and accredited childcare center.

Parental Involvement

Children need love, tolerance, patience, and respect from all people in their lives. Our teachers develop strong relationships with each child and form partnerships with parents to encourage their child's positive self-concept and provide a strong foundation for succeeding in life. Parents are the most important teachers and the partnerships we form will support you as your child's best educator. We have an open door policy and parents are welcome to visit the center at any time. We encourage all parents to be involved as much as possible through sharing their culture and interests, participating in center social events, and attending parent education opportunities.

Our core principles begin with the simple fact that each child is unique and learns at a different rate and in a different way. Our mission is to provide a rich, warm, supportive environment in which your child may develop socially, emotionally, physically and intellectually.

Play Clothes are Strongly Suggested!

Childhood should be brimming with joyful opportunities to learn, grow and develop good character. We help prepare children for learning in school and throughout their lives. Play is the vehicle for learning in our center. Our professional early childhood educators bring years of experience to your child's daily activities. They are often joined by enthusiastic Early Childhood Education interns from the UMSL College of Education who bring new learning-through-play activities and the latest best practices for developing healthy young bodies and minds.

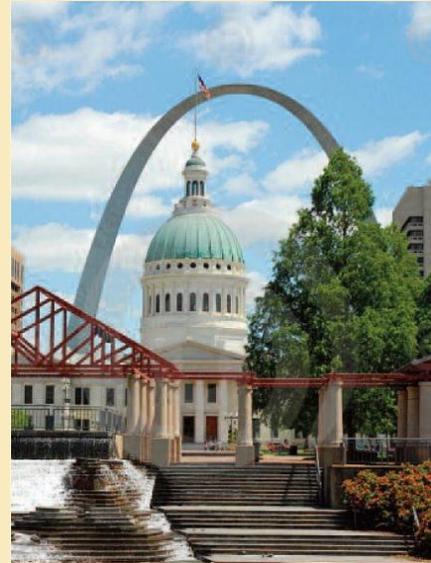
Innovative Education... Engaged Educators

The College of Education at UMSL offers authentic, in-depth learning experiences to prepare current and future education professionals for transformative roles in their communities and careers. Our programs prepare students to develop as "community educators" instead of "school teachers"; community leaders instead of "principals"; and regard "educator development" with the belief that becoming a professional educator is part art, part science, and a life-long process.

UMSL at a glance

The University of Missouri—St. Louis is a public, research university located in Missouri's most populous and economically important region. Founded in 1963, UMSL attracts more students than any other university in the St. Louis region.

We offer you 54 undergraduate degree choices from our five colleges. And we partner with more than 400 companies and organizations for our internship program. You'll get out of the classroom, gain practical experience, make connections and jump-start your career.

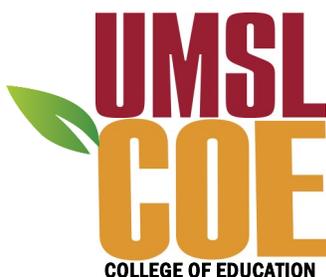


St. Louis: Something for everyone

UMSL is a vital part of St. Louis, and the city and surrounding areas make up the most culturally vibrant region in Missouri. That means we offer you more than a top-ranked learning environment.

There's a night out with friends on Washington Avenue. An exhibit opening at the Saint Louis Art Museum. A Saturday afternoon at the Saint Louis Zoo. A home-run celebration at Busch Stadium.

St. Louis is a place where you can be you.



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