Ensure the youngest children get a head start.

The impact of early learning experiences for children from birth through third grade is far-reaching. Specialized training is required for early childhood educators to help young children discover their worlds. The need for passionate, qualified educators in Early Childhood Education and Early Childhood Special Education is growing. Employment opportunities can be found in both public and private institutions with missions that focus on the youngest learners or in any organization interested in young children and their learning.

The Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education, with an Emphasis in Early Childhood Special Education

The BS in Early Childhood Education, with an emphasis in Early Childhood Special Education, is designed for students who are interested in obtaining Missouri teacher certification. This campus-based program offers field and practicum experiences in elementary school settings. In addition to general education requirements, the program includes education foundation courses, required education courses, clinical experiences and early childhood education courses.

The program, based on best practices, addresses child development theories and practice, curriculum emergence and development, developmentally appropriate practice, differentiated learning, diversity, advocacy, and family partnerships.

Upon completion of the program, graduates will be able to improve and enhance student learning; integrate technology to create meaningful student learning within the context of a global digital society; apply content and pedagogical knowledge to create authentic and deep learning experiences; use learning science principles to design, implement and evaluate curriculum based on learning standards; design and establish a safe, inclusive and respectful learning environment that nurtures the intellectual, social and personal development of all students; and use equitable frameworks and inclusive practices to create a variety of instructional and assessment opportunities adapted to diverse learners to encourage all students’ critical thinking, problem solving and performance skills.
Fully accredited.

The Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education at UMSL is earned through our fully accredited College of Education which provides Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education certifications. Additionally, our counseling programs are accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs and our school psychology program is accredited by the National Association for School Psychology.

Preparing for an ever-changing world.

The College of Education offers a variety of programs that lead to exciting and rewarding career opportunities. Our faculty, staff, and community partners are committed to providing experiences to build the knowledge and skills needed for individuals to be successful in multiple educational settings and occupations. These careers include teachers, principals, and district superintendents; teachers and administrators for informal education organizations like museums, zoos and nature centers; counselors and mental health professionals for schools, hospitals, corporate employee assistance programs, clinics and private settings; and postsecondary leaders and instructors for community colleges, career technical schools, and four-year colleges and universities.

The college hosts many centers and initiatives that enhance student experiences in our programs and work with more than 36 different public, private and charter schools throughout the region. We also sponsor eight charter schools.

Serious education. Serious value.

The BS in Early Childhood Education is designed to provide specialized knowledge, skills and training in a flexible format. You’ll learn from highly qualified educators and researchers who hold terminal degrees from some of the world’s most prestigious academic institutions.

The University of Missouri–St. Louis provides the knowledge, resources, tools, skills and support students need to be successful in our programs. Our comprehensive student support services include workshops, tutoring and career services to help you develop skills and strategies to be successful in the classroom and beyond. UMSL welcomes transfer students and our transfer specialists will assist you with getting the most transfer credits possible. We’re also committed to increasing access to higher education, and as such, UMSL is consistently ranked number one in affordability in the St. Louis region.

Learn more at coe.umsl.edu

Career Opportunities

Classroom Teacher, Toddlers
Classroom Teacher, Preschool
Classroom Teacher, Kindergarten
Classroom Teacher, 1st-3rd Grade
Classroom Teacher, Special Education
Childcare Center Director
Early Childhood Services Director

The University of Missouri–St. Louis is the largest public research university located in Missouri’s most populous and economically important region. UMSL provides high-quality, affordable education to one of the most diverse student bodies in the state. No university is better connected to the surrounding region than UMSL. Seventy-three percent of our graduates stay in St. Louis. The region needs a workforce well-equipped to teach the region’s population and UMSL is prepared to help you meet that need. Choose the University of Missouri–St. Louis for education.