



SANFORD COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

# MASTER OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

## Become a Leader in Early Childhood Education

Learn how to build a foundation for learning by earning a Master of Early Childhood Education degree. This program is designed for current early childhood educators, including transitional kindergarten (TK) teachers who are inspired to deepen their knowledge, understanding, and advancement of the field. The program is a pathway to become a more effective early childhood education leader and change agent. Through deep reflection on current issues, research, and trends in the field, you'll have an opportunity to explore the complex role and unique history of early childhood education.

In this program, you'll develop an in-depth area of study for increasing competency as an inspired educator. Evidence of professional growth is presented in a portfolio capstone. You will develop a personal teaching growth plan that is grounded in both historical and current practice

as well as professional ethics to create a pathway for continuous growth and to advance the field. The inquiry-based approach to learning integrated throughout the program allows you to develop a line of practitioner inquiry to support and implement exceptional experiences for all learners while advancing the field.

### Program Highlights:

- Evaluate effective early childhood practice using critical thinking skills, active self-reflection, and professional standards
- Examine the impact of evidence-based practices and policies on children, family, schools, and communities
- Demonstrate effective leadership skills to promote and advance the field of early childhood education for children, families, educators, and communities

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**NATIONAL  
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## MASTER OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

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The Master of Early Childhood Education program is designed for current Early Childhood Educators, including Transitional Kindergarten (TK) teachers who are inspired to deepen their knowledge, understanding, and advancement of the field. The program is a pathway to become a more effective Early Childhood Education leader and change agent. The program engages candidates in opportunities, based upon Universal Design for Learning (UDL) theory, to gain the skills and knowledge to advance and advocate for the field of Early Childhood Education. Through deep reflection on current issues, research, and trends in the field, the program provides the opportunity to explore the complex role and unique history of Early Childhood Education.

Candidates develop an in-depth area of increasing competency as an Inspired educator. Evidence of professional growth is presented in a portfolio capstone. Candidates develop a personal teaching growth plan that is grounded in both historical and current practice, as well as professional ethics to create a pathway for continuous growth and to advance the field. The inquiry-based approach to learning integrated throughout the program allows candidates to develop a line of practitioner inquiry to support and implement exceptional experiences for all learners while advancing the field.

### Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Evaluate effective early childhood practice using critical thinking skills, active self-reflection, and professional standards.
- Examine the impact of evidence-based practices and policies on children, family, schools, and communities.
- Demonstrate effective leadership skills to promote and advance the field of early childhood education for children, families, educators, and communities.

### Degree Requirements

To receive a Master of Early Childhood Education, students must complete 45 quarter units of graduate work. ATP 600 and ATP 699 must be taken at National University. A total of 4.5 quarter units of graduate credit may be granted for equivalent graduate work completed, as it applies to this degree and if the units were not used in earning another advanced degree.

### Requirements for the Major

(10 courses; 45 quarter units)

ATP 600	Inspired Educator
ECE 650	The Early Childhood Educator <i>Prerequisite: ATP 600 or MAE 610</i>
ECE 651	Current Issues in ECE <i>Prerequisite: ATP 600 or MAE 610</i>
ECE 652	ECE Learning & Development <i>Prerequisite: ATP 600 or MAE 610</i>
ECE 653	Best ECE Teaching Practices <i>Prerequisite: ATP 600 or MAE 610</i>
ECE 654	Collaborative Partnerships <i>Prerequisite: ATP 600 or MAE 610</i>
ECE 655	Inclusive ECE Practices <i>Prerequisite: ATP 600 or MAE 610</i>
ECE 656	Foundations of Adult Learners <i>Prerequisite: ATP 600 or MAE 610</i>
ECE 657	Foundations of ECE Advocacy <i>Prerequisite: ATP 600 or MAE 610</i>
ATP 699	Capstone/Portfolio <i>Prerequisite: Students must complete all major core courses prior to enrolling in the capstone course.</i>