

Instructions for Applying to Elementary Education

DEADLINE

June 1, 2020

Applying to the Elementary Education program is a two step process. The first step is submitting an online application. This step may be completed at any point during the application period, ideally as soon as the applicant decides to apply for admission to the Elementary Education program. The second step requires the student to have at least one letter of recommendation submitted on their behalf.

Prospective applicants are strongly encouraged to meet with an Education Academic Services/Office of Undergraduate Recruitment and Retention advisor. Phone 608-262-1651 or visit Room 139 Education Building (on Bascom Hill) to make an appointment. Students who are applying as prospective transfers to UW-Madison are also strongly encouraged to meet with an EAS/OURR advisor, either in person or via phone.

Technical questions about the application may be directed to soeadmissions@education.wisc.edu; we will try to respond within 24 hours.

The Elementary Education program is composed of four distinct program options. Detailed information about the Elementary Education options is available in the [Guide](#). *Applicants are permitted to apply to only two of the four program options.*

- EC/ESL (Early Childhood/ESL)
- MC–EA/ESL (Middle Childhood–Early Adolescence/ESL)
- MC–EA/Dual (Middle Childhood–Early Adolescence/Special Education Dual Major)
- MC–EA/CF (Middle Childhood–Early Adolescence/Content-Focused Minor)

Students applying to two options must indicate their first and second choice of the two options when completing the online application. Each option has its own selection committee and only reviews applications to that option.

Completed applications received before the deadline will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Education Academic Services will collect, process, and deliver all eligible applications to the Elementary Education program for review. Applications will be considered on a “space permitting” admission basis after offers of admission are extended to applicants who applied by the deadline.

Admission to the Elementary Education program is limited and may be competitive. Obtaining or exceeding the minimum eligibility criteria does not guarantee admission. Applicants should carefully review the program admission information available in the [Guide](#).

Applicants *not currently enrolled* on the UW-Madison campus must also submit an application to the [Office of Admissions and Recruitment](#) by the Fall 2020 deadline to be eligible for this program.

Step One: Online Application

The online application for the Elementary Education program may be accessed via the School’s [Apply to a Program](#) page and must be completed by the June 1, 2020. The online application consist of the following parts and has required documents listed below:

Transcripts

Current and prospective UW-Madison students must **upload** their unofficial transcripts from each college or university they are currently attending or have previously attended*. Transcripts must be a single file PDF per school or college.

- All UW-Madison students must submit an unofficial transcript of their UW-Madison coursework. To access your UW-Madison unofficial transcript, go [HERE](#) for instructions.
- All prospective UW-Madison students must submit an unofficial transcript from their current school

Instructions for Applying to Elementary Education

DEADLINE

June 1, 2020

or college

- Transcripts must include Fall 2019 grades if were enrolled in Fall 2019 courses

**This includes courses taken through a university or college while in high school. Does not include AP work.*

Essays

In a space provided, students must submit a response for each prompt below. It is recommended that students **copy and paste** their responses from a Word Doc..

Essay #1: The mission statement of the Elementary Education program can be found below. Please identify a part of this mission statement and describe why it is important to you. You may want to relate a specific experience working with children or your own experience as a pupil to illustrate its importance. **(300 words maximum)**

Mission Statement of the Elementary Education Program

To provide an intellectually challenging professional program that promotes social justice through multi-cultural education and critical reflection. This entails educating teacher leaders who:

- are well educated in academic content and dedicated to continued learning;
- recognize the powers, limits, and controversies of particular disciplines;
- understand that identity* shapes all thinking and action: their own, their students' and that of all those connected to schooling;
- know that institutions like schools have the potential to both perpetuate inequities and effect change in society;
- work for social justice through research-based curricular planning and instructional practices that promote high academic achievement for all students, particularly those who have been historically underserved;
- are responsive to their students' needs by learning from their teaching, collaborating with other professionals, and changing their practices;
- welcome, recruit and work as partners with families, caregivers and community members; and
- contribute to and benefit from communities of professional practice.

** By identity we mean to include such categorical markers as race, ethnicity, culture, language, socio-economic group, gender, sexual orientation, abilities, religion and experiences.*

Essay #2: Relating to the mission statement, in what areas are you interested in growing to enable you to become an effective teacher and how can we support you in this? **(300 words maximum)**

Essay #3 – Optional: If there are semesters when your grades were uncharacteristically low and/or if there are gaps in your resume as a result of a serious life event or negative experience, please explain the circumstances here so we can take it into account during the admissions process. **(200 word maximum)**. *This essay is not required and we do not expect most students to submit it.*

Résumé

Applicants must provide a bulleted résumé that highlights their experiences with children and/or youth, and other relevant experiences such as studying abroad or proficiency with additional languages. This should be **uploaded** as a Word Doc or PDF document.

Step Two: Letters of Recommendation

Students must submit the names and emails of their two (2) recommenders. This letter should come from a

Instructions for Applying to Elementary Education

DEADLINE

June 1, 2020

volunteer coordinator, public or private school teacher, university teacher, or formal employer with whom they have interacted. The primary focus of these letters should be on the prospective teacher's professional competencies. For this reason, a letter from an informal employer, such as a family retaining the applicant's services as a babysitter, is discouraged.

- Students must provide the names and emails of their possible (2) recommenders
 - Receipt of at least 1 letter is required for applications to be considered
- An automatic recommendation request email will be generated and sent to your recommenders based on your provided information at the completion of your application
- Letters must be received by June 1, 2020