Curriculum and Instruction
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Elementary Education Program
Application Instructions
Initial deadline February 1, 2023
Rolling admissions following initial deadline until August 1, 2023

Applying to the Elementary Education program is a two-step process. The first step is compiling your application materials. 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 is completing the online application.

Prospective applicants are strongly encouraged to meet with a School of Education Academic Advisor. Schedule by calling 608-262-1651 or via Starfish. Applicants who are applying as prospective transfers to UW-Madison are also strongly encouraged to meet with an advisor.

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 dynamic certification options. Detailed information about the Elementary Education options are available in the Guide. Applicants are permitted to apply to only one of the four certification options.

- ☐ Kindergarten through Ninth Grade (Single Certification)
- ☐ Kindergarten through Ninth Grade and English as a Second Language K-12 (Dual Certification)
- ☐ Kindergarten through Ninth Grade and Early Childhood Education (Dual Certification)
- ☐ Kindergarten through Ninth Grade, Early Childhood Education, and English as a Second Language K-12 (Triple Certification)

Information about the different certification options can be found HERE.

Applicants interested in the Elementary Education Kindergarten - 9th Grade/Special Education Kindergarten - 12th Grade option will apply though the Special Education and Rehabilitation Psychology department's application. Please go HERE to find that application.

Completed applications received after the initial deadline will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Education Student 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. 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 2023 deadline to be eligible for this program.

Program Eligibility
- ☐ Successfully complete at least 40 transferable college-level credits by the end of the fall semester

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before application.
☐ While GPA is a factor in the selection process, no minimum is required to apply for program admission. If admitted, students must earn the minimum cumulative GPA for UW–Madison coursework established by the program and the School of Education each semester after admission.

For additional information please go HERE

Step One: Compile Application Materials

The online application consists of the following parts and has required documents listed below:

Transcripts
☐ <u>Current UW-Madison students</u> must upload their unofficial transcripts of their UW-Madison coursework. To access your UW-Madison unofficial transcript, go HERE for instructions. Transcript must be uploaded as a single PDF file. Transcripts must include Fall 2022 grades if enrolled in Fall 2022 courses

☐ <u>Prospective UW-Madison transfer applicants</u> must upload an unofficial transcript from each college or university they are currently attending or have previously attended*. Transcripts must be a single file PDF per school or college. Transcripts must include Fall 2022 grades if enrolled in Fall 2022 courses

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

Essays
Applicants must submit a response for the Required Essay from the prompt below. An Optional Essay is included if applicants would like to submit a response. Responses must be uploaded as a single PDF file per essay.

Required Essay
☐ 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:

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- 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.

Optional Essay
☐ 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. Response must be uploaded as single PDF file.

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. Résumé must be uploaded as a single PDF file.

Step Two: Completing Online Application Form
Accessing the Application
☐ The online application for the Elementary Education program may be accessed via the School's [Apply to a Program](#) page.

Background Check
☐ Upon acceptance to the program, applicants will be asked to submit to a background check. The purpose of this background check is meet the legal requirements issued by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) for applicants for Wisconsin educator license.

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