4-Year Elementary Education

Degree Offered

• Bachelor of Arts

Nature of the Program

The BA in Elementary Education program is a traditional, 4 year program on-campus at West Virginia University that prepares students to earn a teaching certification in multi-subjects grades K-6 upon graduation. As part of the program, students complete work in local, public school placements for 4 semesters before the final, student teaching semester. This field and clinical experience totals over 600 hours in the classroom. The BA in Elementary Education program values the learning that happens not only in the WVU classrooms, but also in the application of these lessons in the field. This is why students graduate with hundreds of hours of practice and experience teaching.

In addition to an emphasis on experience in local schools, the BA in Elementary Education program is committed to high academic standards at the state and national levels. Program faculty work with national accreditation standards and contribute to the profession at university, state, and national levels. This work involves exploration of technology, diversity, global initiatives, and culturally responsive teaching, facilitated by faculty who are leaders in research, teaching, and service.

The BA in Elementary Education program also allows the space for students to find their individual areas of interest, for which many pursue a Master's degree. Students in the BA in Elementary Education program can begin working as a classroom teacher after graduation while simultaneously earning their graduate degree. Many of our Master's degrees are offered online, like Special Education, Literacy Education, School Counseling, Advanced Elementary Education, and more.

Admissions

High school and other students interested in a career in elementary education can apply and be directly admitted to the BA Elementary Education program. As part of this program, students complete course work that makes them eligible for West Virginia teacher certification, multi-subjects grades K-6. By the time students graduate, they will have spent over 600 hours in the field.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

INCOMING FRESHMEN

Direct Admission

3.0 GPA (High school)

AND

26 ACT

OR

SAT Evidence Based Reading/Writing and Math Section 1240 (post-March 2016 test sitting)

OR

Passing scores on all three sections of the Praxis CORE test.

More information about the Praxis CORE can be found at https://www.ets.org/praxis/about/core/. Any student seeking teacher licensure is required to take this test.

Pre-Elementary Education Admission

If you do not meet the direct admission requirements, above, you can begin applicable course work as a Pre-Elementary Education student, if you meet the following requirements:

2.75 GPA (High School)

AND

20 ACT

OR

SAT Evidence based Reading/ Writing and Math Section 1020 (post-March 2016 test sitting)

Once admitted as a Pre-Elementary Education student, successful completion of the following will allow the student to advance into the Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education program.

• Pass the EDUC 191 course with a grade of "B" or better; and
• Cumulative GPA of 2.75; and
• Pass all three sections (Reading, Writing, Math) of Praxis CORE by April 1 of Freshman year.
CURRENT WVU UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS AND STUDENTS TRANSFERRING FROM ANOTHER COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

This population includes transfers from outside of WVU as well as major transfers from within WVU.

2.75 GPA (Undergraduate)
AND
26 ACT
OR
SAT Evidence Based Reading/Writing and Math Section 1240 (post-March 2016 test sitting)
OR
Passing scores on all three sections of the Praxis CORE test.

ADMISSION PROCEDURES

NEW FRESHMEN AND TRANSFER STUDENTS

New freshmen and students transferring from another college or university must complete West Virginia University's online undergraduate admission application (https://admissions.wvu.edu/how-to-apply).

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Once you have applied and been accepted to West Virginia University, please complete and submit the program application (https://wvucehs.wufoo.com/forms/mvdzoui00s1u0g) form*.

CURRENT WVU UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

Current WVU undergraduate students may apply to the program by completing the program application (https://wvucehs.wufoo.com/forms/mvdzoui00s1u0g).

*If you are having trouble submitting the form online, feel free to download and print our mail-in program application form (https://cils.wvu.edu/files/d/3f0ed648-f537-468a-849c-0c61f38e5d66/fillin4yr_print_application-form.pdf).

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Incoming freshmen are welcome to apply at any time prior to their first semester at WVU.

For current WVU undergraduate students and transfer students, program applications will be reviewed twice annually and will be accepted based on admissions criteria as well as available spaces.

April 1 – Application deadline for admission into Fall semester.
December 1 – Application deadline for admission into Spring Semester.

Click here to view the Suggested Plan of Study (p. 4)

Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education

GENERAL EDUCATION FOUNDATIONS

Please use this link to view a list of courses that meet each GEF requirement. (https://registrar.wvu.edu/curriculum-catalog/general-education-foundations-gef)

NOTE: Some major requirements will fulfill specific GEF requirements. Please see the curriculum requirements listed below for details on which GEFs you will need to select.

General Education Foundations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>F1 - Composition &amp; Rhetoric</th>
<th>3-6</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 101 &amp; ENGL 102 or ENGL 103</td>
<td>Introduction to Composition and Rhetoric and Composition, Rhetoric, and Research Accelerated Academic Writing</td>
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<tr>
<td>F2A/F2B - Science &amp; Technology</td>
<td>4-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>F3 - Math &amp; Quantitative Skills</td>
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<td>F4 - Society &amp; Connections</td>
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<td>F5 - Human Inquiry &amp; the Past</td>
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<tr>
<td>F6 - The Arts &amp; Creativity</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>F7 - Global Studies &amp; Diversity</td>
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### CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

#### UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS

**EDUC 191**  
First-Year Seminar  
1 hour

#### GENERAL EDUCATION FOUNDATIONS CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

Choose one of the following (GEF 1):  
6 hours

- **ENGL 101**  
  Introduction to Composition and Rhetoric  
- **ENGL 102**  
  and Composition, Rhetoric, and Research  
- **ENGL 103**  
  Accelerated Academic Writing

**GEF 2B Science & Technology** (choose one of the following biology courses with laboratory):  
4 hours

- **BIOL 101**  
  General Biology  
- **BIOL 103**  
  and General Biology Laboratory  
- **BIOL 102**  
  General Biology  
- **BIOL 104**  
  and General Biology Laboratory  
- **BIOL 105**  
  Environmental Biology  
- **BIOL 106**  
  and Environmental Biology Laboratory  
- **MATH 124**  
  Algebra with Applications (GEF 3)  
- **PSYC 101**  
  Introduction to Psychology (GEF 4)  

Choose one of the following (GEF 5):  
3 hours

- **HIST 152**  
  Growth of the American Nation to 1865  
- **HIST 153**  
  Making of Modern America: 1865 to the Present

**GEF 6 ENGL course in World Literature**  
3 hours

Choose one of the following (GEF 7):  
3 hours

- **SOCA 105**  
  Introduction to Anthropology (GEF 7)  
- **POLS 103**  
  Global Political Issues

**GEF 8 Focus Coursework** (three courses, including):  
11 hours

Choose one of the following:

- **HIST 179**  
  World History to 1500  
- **HIST 180**  
  World History Since 1500

And choose two of the following:

- **ASTR 106**  
  Descriptive Astronomy  
- **ASTR 107**  
  and Descriptive Astronomy Laboratory  
- **CHEM 111**  
  Survey of Chemistry 1  
- **111L**  
  and Survey of Chemistry 1 - Laboratory  
- **GEOL 101**  
  Planet Earth  
- **GEOL 102**  
  and Planet Earth Laboratory  
- **PHYS 105**  
  Conceptual Physics

#### CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

- **CDFS 110**  
  Families Across the Life Span  
 3 hours
- **or PSYC 241**  
  Introduction to Human Development  
- **GEOG 102**  
  World Regions  
 3 hours
- **C&I 230**  
  Mathematics for Elementary Teachers 1  
 3 hours
- **C&I 231**  
  Mathematics for Elementary Teachers 2  
 3 hours
- **SHED 300**  
  Health Education for Elementary School Teachers  
 2 hours

Choose two of the following courses:  
4 hours

- **ART 103**  
  Materials and Procedures  
- **MUSC 182**  
  Music in the Elementary School  
- **C&I 365**  
  Dance and Movement in PK-12 Schools

#### PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

**EDUC 200**  
Professional Inquiry in Education (fulfills Writing and Communication Skills requirement)  
3 hours

**EDUC 301**  
Learning in Educational Settings  
3 hours
### SUGGESTED PLAN OF STUDY

#### First Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tr>
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<td>CDFS 110</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 101 (GEF 1)</td>
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<td>3 GEOG 102</td>
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<td>MATH 124 (GEF 3)</td>
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<td>3 GEOL 101</td>
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<td>&amp; GEOL 102 (GEF 8)</td>
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<td>4 HIST 179</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>PHYS 105 (GEF 8)</td>
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#### Second Year

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<td>3 C&amp;I 231</td>
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<td>C&amp;I 230</td>
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<td>EDUC 301</td>
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<td>3 EDUC 311</td>
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<td>BIOL Requirement (GEF 2)</td>
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#### Third Year

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<tr>
<td>ART 103, MUSC 182, or CI 365</td>
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<td>2 EDUC 401</td>
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<td>C&amp;I 414</td>
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<td>EDUC 312</td>
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<td>1 EDUC 440</td>
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<td>EDUC 430</td>
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#### Fourth Year

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<td>EDUC 411</td>
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<td>4 C&amp;I 497</td>
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### TESTING REQUIREMENTS:

**WV State Certification Requirements:**

- Praxis Core [NOTE: Praxis Core tests are waived if you have already completed a master’s degree OR if you scored 26 on the ACT OR if you scored 1240 on the SAT (Evidence-based reading/writing and Math).]
- Praxis II/Elementary Education test [NOTE: Successful completion of this assessment is required prior to student teaching; scores must be received prior to the first day of the internship.]
- edTPA, Teacher Performance Assessment: Required as part of the Student Teaching semester. [NOTE: Successful completion of this assessment is required prior to applying for a WV teaching license and for WVU program completion.]

**Disclaimer:** State Board of Education requirements may change testing and program requirements.

## Major Learning Outcomes

### 4-YEAR ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

The learning goals for the WVU Four-Year Elementary Teacher Education Program are to prepare students who:

- Have a commitment and skills to engage in lifelong learning.
- Are effective communicators.
- Recognize that teaching is a professional, moral, and ethical enterprise with well-developed ethical frameworks which facilitate effective teaching.
- Will serve as a facilitator of learning and advocate for all students.
- Possess in-depth knowledge of both pedagogy and content, and the relationships between them.
- Are reflective practitioners.
- Are aware of, and have respect for, human diversity.
- Value and integrate knowledge from a wide variety of fields, are creative and open to new ideas, and are able to act constructively in a world characterized by technological, cultural, and societal diversity and change.

## Policies

### MATRICULATION POLICIES

- Students must earn at least a grade of “C-” in all professional education courses to remain in the BA Elementary Education program. Earning a grade less than a “C-” may result in the student being removed from the program. In this event, the student must contact an advisor immediately.
- Students who arrange to receive a grade of “I” (incomplete) must complete all requirements to change the incomplete to a passing grade prior to the beginning of the next semester. If the student does NOT get the grade of “I” changed to a passing grade, the student will NOT be able to matriculate to the next semester of courses. In this event, the student must contact an advisor immediately.
- Students must maintain at least a 2.75 grade point average in order to remain in the BA Elementary Education program. If the GPA falls below 2.75, the student will be permitted to continue on a probationary status for ONE semester. At the end of that semester of probation, the student’s overall GPA must be at least a 2.75 in order to be eligible to continue in the program. A student is permitted only one probationary semester in the program. Should the student’s GPA fall below a 2.75 a second time, that student will not be eligible to matriculate. In this event, the student must contact an advisor immediately.

## TESTING BENCHMARKS

### WV STATE CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Praxis Core [NOTE: Praxis Core tests are waived if you have already completed a master’s degree OR if you scored 26 on the ACT OR if you scored 1240 on the SAT (Evidence-based reading/writing and Math).]
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EDUC 100. Education Colloquium. 1 Hour.
Components of and requirements for the teacher preparation program, including specializations, professional organizations, requirements for admission to the major, avenues to program completion, and requirements for work with children or youth.

EDUC 191. First-Year Seminar. 1-3 Hours.
Engages students in active learning strategies that enable effective transition to college life at WVU. Students will explore school, college and university programs, policies and services relevant to academic success. Provides active learning activities that enable effective transition to the academic environment. Students examine school, college and university programs, policies and services.

EDUC 200. Professional Inquiry in Education. 3 Hours.
PR: ENGL 101 and ENGL 102. The course provides an examination of issues that cut across the field of teaching and the institution of public education. This course also focuses on developing higher-level skills in written communication.

EDUC 293. Special Topics. 1-6 Hours.
PR: Consent. Investigation of topics not covered in regularly scheduled courses.

EDUC 301. Learning in Educational Settings. 3 Hours.
Examination and utilization of behavioral and cognitive learning models; consideration of learner characteristics and other factors affecting student learning.

EDUC 311. Practicum 1/Technology Application. 1 Hour.
PR or CONC: EDUC 200. Application of models and paradigms of learning in content area and instructional technologies through tutoring of individuals and small groups in an assigned public school site.

EDUC 312. Practicum 2/Technology Application. 1 Hour.
PR: EDUC 301 and EDUC 311. Application of paradigms of learning in content area and instructional technologies through tutoring of individuals and small groups in an assigned public school site.

EDUC 400. Instructional Design and Evaluation. 3 Hours.
PR: Admission to the major and a grade of a C or better in EDUC 301. Examination and demonstration of teacher behaviors required to plan classroom instruction, assess student learning, and evaluate instruction; emphasis on instruction, assessment, and evaluation to accommodate a wide range of student needs.

EDUC 401. Managing and Organizing Learning Environments. 3 Hours.
PR: Admission to the major and a grade of C or better in EDUC 400 and PR or CONC: EDUC 410. Examination of research and practice in organizing and managing school learning environments to produce optimal learning; development of management systems congruent with personal philosophy, research, learner characteristics, and content area.

EDUC 410. Practicum 3/Technology Application. 2 Hours.
PR: EDUC 312 and EDUC 400. Planning and implementing content area instruction, applying different instructional models, instructional technologies, and assessment techniques to small and large groups in an assigned public school site.

EDUC 411. Practicum 4: Technology Application. 4 Hours.
PR or CONC: EDUC 410 and (SPED 460 or SPED 461). Planning and implementing content area instruction, applying various management, instruction, instructional technologies, and assessment models to small and large groups in an assigned public school site.

EDUC 414. Promoting Creative Expression in Elementary Classrooms. 3 Hours.
PR: EDUC 312. Includes an examination of creative experiences for children in elementary school, pre-school - grade 6. Topics include the use of the creative arts in learning activities, curriculum development, and instructional strategies.

EDUC 430. Mathematical Methods - Elementary Teacher. 3 Hours.
PR or CONC: EDUC 312. Students will examine the content and pedagogy appropriate for mathematics instruction in the elementary grades. Emphasis is placed on the current reform movements in mathematics education.

EDUC 440. Elementary-Early Childhood Science Methods. 3 Hours.
PR: EDUC 312. Provides students with the knowledge, skills and affective qualities needed to be an effective elementary science teacher and be committed to teaching science in the elementary classroom.

EDUC 450. Issues and Methods for Teaching Elementary Social Studies. 3 Hours.
PR or CONC: EDUC 410. Students examine issues facing social studies education and evaluate and plan lessons and instructional activities that apply learning theory to the philosophy and standards of social studies education for all elementary students.

EDUC 460. Foundations of Language and Literacy. 3 Hours.
PR: EDUC 200 and EDUC 311. This course focuses on foundations of language and literacy development. Students construct philosophies, approaches, and strategies to promote development of literacy in the young child. Focus will include the larger contexts of literacy including home and community.
EDUC 461. Promoting Literacy Connections. 3 Hours.
PR: EDUC 460. This course emphasizes the development of literacy in the elementary setting. Students will develop and refine philosophies, approaches, and strategies to promote the development of literacy in the primary grades. Focus will include the larger contexts of literacy including content literacy, thematic instruction, and the teacher’s leadership role.

EDUC 498. Honors. 1-3 Hours.
PR: Students in honors program and consent by the honors director. Independent reading, study or research.