

# Inclusive Early Childhood Education

## Bachelor of Science in Education College of Education and Human Development

The Inclusive Early Childhood Education Program, within the College of Education and Human Development, is a highly competitive program that prepares teachers to construct developmentally appropriate education for all children ages 3-8, in collaboration with their families. In addition, candidates are prepared and credentialed to work with children at-risk or with disabilities from birth to age three. The vision of the program is to develop infant-toddler, pre-kindergarten, kindergarten and primary grade teachers who have the knowledge, skills and dispositions to

- Create, teach and assess child-centered, constructivist learning experiences for all children in inclusive and diverse classrooms;
- Engage and collaborate with families, communities and other professionals to support the learning and development of all young children;
- Teach and nurture young children based on knowledge of typical and atypical child development, educational psychology and diversity in our society;
- Act as inclusive early childhood professionals who are continuous, collaborative and reflective learners, who act using ethical guidelines, and who advocate for all young children and their families.

BGSU Firelands now also offers students the opportunity to complete the entire bachelor of science degree in inclusive early childhood education on its campus.

### Career Opportunities

Graduates work in a variety of educational settings for young children, including community agencies, daycare centers, pre-kindergartens, kindergartens, and the primary grades of 1-3. Graduates of the program earn three credentials in four years:

- Early Childhood Education license for pre-kindergarten through 3rd grade.
- Early Childhood Intervention Specialist license for pre-kindergarten through 3rd grade.
- Birth to Age 3 Early Intervention Specialist credential through the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities to work with infants and toddlers who have a disability or who are at risk.

### Curriculum

Based on a background in typical and atypical child development, educational psychology, and developmentally appropriate practices, teacher candidates have coursework and clinical experiences to address the four programmatic strands:

- **Constructivist, Child-centered Pedagogy** – Planning and implementing a curriculum that is interdisciplinary, active and engaging as well as facilitates the growth and learning of all children based upon individual needs, backgrounds, research and content standards.
- **Developmental and Diverse Perspectives** – Assessing the needs and progress of all children to create an inclusive environment that reflects cultural diversity and multiple perspectives.
- **Collaboration with Families, Communities and Other Professionals** – Partnering to meet the individual needs of all young children and their families by contributing assessment data and instructional knowledge, listening reflectively and engaging in mutual decision making.
- **Professionalism and Reflective Practice** – Acting as an inclusive early childhood professional who reflects on practice, makes decisions based upon ethics of the profession and advocates to improve the lives of all young children and their families.

### Admission and Licensure

This is a highly competitive four-year program. Admission criteria relate to state and national standards for accreditation. To be admitted, the Inclusive Early Childhood major must demonstrate:

1. An ACT composite of 22 or higher, OR a passing score on Praxis I (reading, writing and math), OR a grade of “C” or better in GSW 1120, EIEC 1110, and Math 1150 or MATH 2130.
2. A minimum overall grade point average of 3.0 at BGSU and in courses transferred from other institutions.
3. A letter grade of “C” or better in EIEC 1110, EDTL 2010, EIEC 2100, EIEC 2010, EIEC 2120, EIEC 2220, and EDFI 3010.

To be eligible for Ohio’s provisional, or entry-year-level, license, a graduate must complete the major with at least a 2.5 accumulative grade point average and must successfully complete the required Praxis II exams.

Inclusive Early Childhood Education majors meeting these criteria qualify to teach children from pre-K through grade three (ages 3-8) and to work in community settings with children at risk or with disabilities aged birth to three.

Before the capstone experience of a student teaching internship, majors engage in a variety of clinical and field experiences including structured observations, tutoring, assessment, and teaching of children in small and large groups across pre-kindergarten and kindergarten/primary grade settings.

### Preparation for College

Completion of the requirements for high school graduation is necessary for admission to BGSU, but completing only the minimum coursework will leave you unprepared for college. Two, three or even four years of the same world language is excellent preparation for college. You will also benefit from competency in computer use. Courses that provide exposure to or training in the visual and performing arts are excellent choices.

## College Highlights

The College of Education and Human Development focuses on the education of professionals who positively impact the development of individuals, families, communities, schools and other societal institutions.

BGSU's teacher education programs are well respected throughout the country. The education programs have earned accreditation from the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and the Ohio Department of Education.

Opportunities for education-related clubs and organizations are available within the College of Education and Human Development. The Student Education Association provides activities and programs to enhance the professional development of teacher candidates. Other professional organizations, both academic and non-academic, are available to students.

Many education majors also take advantage of a wide variety of opportunities to study abroad. Each year students go abroad for experiences ranging from several weeks in the summer to a full semester or academic year.

For detailed information on BGSU students' pass rates on the national licensing exam, visit the College of Education and Human Development's Web site at [www.bgsu.edu/colleges/edhd/](http://www.bgsu.edu/colleges/edhd/)

BGSU's teacher education programs are fully accredited at all levels by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

## For Further Information

June Haynes  
Inclusive Early Childhood Education  
Program Coordinator  
BGSU Firelands  
One University Drive  
Huron, Ohio 44839  
419-433-5560 ext 2-0868  
email: [jsouthw@bgsu.edu](mailto:jsouthw@bgsu.edu)

Admissions and Financial Aid  
419-433-5560 ext. 2-0683

Web site: [www.firelands.bgsu.edu](http://www.firelands.bgsu.edu)

## Your University Opportunity

BGSU Firelands, located in Huron, Ohio, is a regional campus and one of the seven undergraduate colleges of Bowling Green State University. We offer many of the advantages and resources of a major university, but in a smaller, more personal environment.

Generally, students are able to complete at least two years of coursework toward most of the 200-degree programs at BGSU before transferring to the main campus, or to another college or university.

BGSU Firelands offers students a wireless environment campus wide. Kiosks and public-access computers located in most campus buildings provide easy Internet access. In addition, there are several on-campus computer labs with a variety of computers and software programs.

The library, containing more than 30,000 volumes, is computer-linked to the more than 4 million items available through BGSU's libraries to provide excellent research opportunities.

Academic advisors work individually with students to plan their degree programs and small class sizes allow students to have close, personal contact with their professors. Free tutoring is readily available through the Teaching and Learning Center. Scholarships, grants and loans are available to assist students with tuition.

**NOTE:** Information in this guide is subject to change without notice. To learn more about the official program of study for Inclusive Early Childhood Education, please check the undergraduate catalog online at [www.bgsu.edu/catalog/](http://www.bgsu.edu/catalog/)