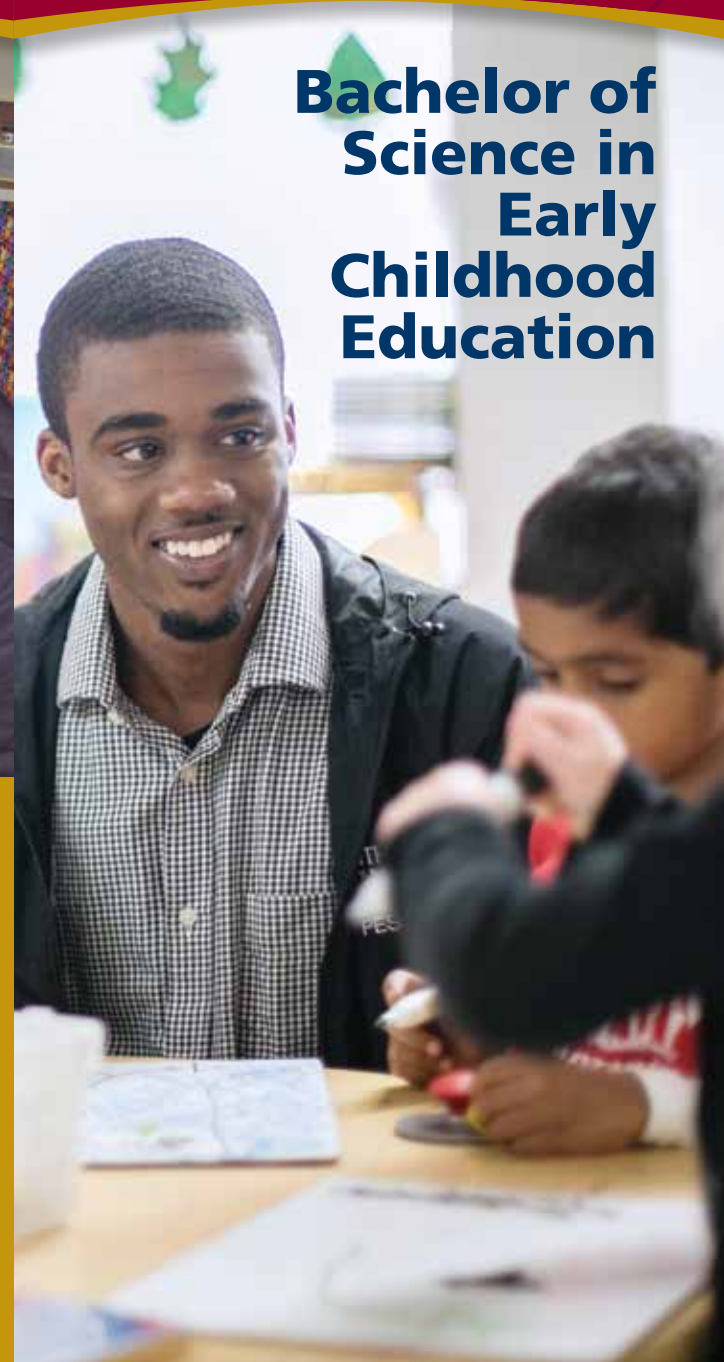


Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education



WINTHROP
UNIVERSITY

Richard W. Riley College of Education



Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education

Program Overview

The Bachelor of Science in early childhood education (B.S. ECED) at Winthrop University is designed to prepare individuals who are seeking initial certification in pre-kindergarten – grade 3. We focus on preparing candidates to work with young children, ages birth through eight. A unique feature of this program is that courses required by South Carolina for elementary education certification (grades 2 – 6) are embedded into the B.S. ECED program. Graduates of the B.S. ECED program have the option of adding on elementary education certification by successfully completing elementary education Praxis II and PLT requirements.

For more information, contact:

Tenisha L. Powell, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Department of Curriculum and Pedagogy
204 Withers/W.T.S. Building
Rock Hill, SC 29733
803/323-2454
powelltl@winthrop.edu
www.winthrop.edu/coe/ECED

Internships and Field Experiences

Beginning in the freshman year and throughout the program, early childhood candidates are placed in settings that include early school grades, child care centers and homes, Head Start programs and the Macfeat Laboratory School for an average of 1,200 hours. During their senior year, as junior faculty members, candidates complete a year-long internship in an early childhood classroom (Pre-K – Grade 3). The Richard W. Riley College of Education maintains a strong partnership network with Professional Development Schools (PDS) and Partner Schools that continue to inform the B.S. ECED program.

The Curriculum

The curriculum in the early childhood program includes the exploration of current research and practice. Students benefit from hands-on experiences, including visits to local schools and child care centers. The curriculum focuses on a new conceptual framework (Teacher as Educational Leader) and prepares Winthrop's graduates for the ever-changing world of education. Courses leading to the Bachelor of Science in early childhood education provide students with the opportunity to explore current research in the field. The major requires 83 semester hours in the professional education sequence, including approximately 29 semester hours in the core curriculum.



Macfeat Early Childhood Laboratory School

The Macfeat Laboratory School, for children ages three to five, is operated by the Richard W. Riley College of Education as a training/demonstration/research facility. Macfeat is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and is the oldest continually operating laboratory school in the country.

National Accreditation

Winthrop's Bachelor of Science in early childhood education program is fully accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children

(NAEYC). The Richard W. Riley College of Education is nationally accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

Careers

Early childhood graduates are certified to teach from pre-kindergarten through grade 3. Almost all early childhood graduates are employed in some type of educational facility. The optional add-on certification in elementary education greatly increases their employment options.

Student Groups

Many early childhood majors are members of the South Carolina chapter of the National Education Association and the South Carolina Early Childhood Association. These organizations meet regularly and sponsor activities and guest speakers. The Kappa Delta Pi honor society is also available for education majors who achieve high academic honors.

