

# Early Childhood Education

## EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION MAJOR FACT SHEET



### OVERVIEW

The Department of Education and Leadership Studies at Cheyney University offers two undergraduate programs – a Bachelor of Science Degree with certification in Early Childhood Education (Pre-K-Grade 4) and a Bachelor of Science Degree with dual certification in Early Childhood Education (Pre-K-Grade 4) and Special Education (K-8).

### B. S. EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (PRE-K-GRADE 4)

The early childhood program (pre-K-Grade 4) is planned to develop candidates who are reflective decision-makers, collaborative change agents, and effective practitioners capable of making informed decisions about the learning environments in which children flourish emotionally, intellectually, socially, and physically. Students engage in coursework that is designed to develop competence in designing and implementing developmentally appropriate activities for the developing child from birth to nine years of age. Included in the curriculum is coursework in classroom management, teaching English language learners, and advocacy. In addition, candidates learn how to work collaboratively with parents, and community agencies. Students complete supervised field experiences and student teaching in diverse public school settings.

### B. S. EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (PRE-K-GRADE 4) AND SPECIAL EDUCATION (K-8).

This program leads to dual teacher certification in general early childhood education (Pre-K-grade 4) and early childhood special education (K-8). Students learn about the intellectual, physical, social, and emotional development of young children with special needs and their families. This program provides opportunities for students to work with infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and early elementary children who have a broad range of special needs. Students complete supervised field experiences and student teaching in diverse public school settings.

### REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION INTO THE TEACHER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

Students who seek to enter the early childhood teacher certification programs should possess good character, above average academic ability, and dispositions suitable for working with children and youth.

In addition to completing an application for admission to the university, students must complete an application for admission into a teacher certification program. The requirements for admission are as follows:

- A filed declaration of major form in the Chairperson's office and planned course of study
- Copy of transcripts verifying that the student has completed:
  - A minimum of forty-eight (48) semester hours credit in the common core program
  - 6 credit hours of college level math with a minimum grade of C or better
  - 3 credit hours of English composition with a minimum grade of C or better
  - 3 credit hours of English Literature with a minimum grade of C or better
- Cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better
- Passing scores on the Praxis I Academic Skills Assessment tests in reading, writing and mathematics;
- A well-written essay explaining why he/she has chosen to enter the profession of teaching
- Criminal background clearances: (1) Act 34 Criminal Background Check, (2) Act 151 Child Abuse History Clearance, and (3) FBI Fingerprint
- Proof of liability insurance

Applications can be secured in the Office of the Chairperson for the Department of Education and Leadership Studies, Room 101, Harris-Turner Center, Main Campus.

### INFORMATION

For additional information on the early childhood education program at Cheyney University Center City please contact:

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