

The path to become a teacher in the elementary grades

1. Freshman year:

Complete *EDU 121 Introduction to Teaching*. This includes fieldwork one morning a week. Receive an Early Childhood Education (ECE) Program Application Packet at the end of this course.

2. Early in your freshman year, map out your four year course plan with your Early Childhood Education Academic Advisor.

3. Work on meeting the ECE Program Application and Admission Requirements.

This includes passing scores on the GACE Program Admissions Tests and taking the GACE Educator Ethics Program Admission Tests. See your application packet for details.

4. Sophomore year: By February 1 complete all of the ECE Program Application and Admission Requirements.

5. In late February, receive notification of admission to the ECE Program.

6. Junior year: The ECE Program officially begins with the fall semester and lasts four semesters. In the fall, you will attend a “Welcome to the Program Reception” where, among other things, you will complete a Pre-Service Certification Application. In the spring semester, you will take part in fieldwork two mornings a week.

7. Senior year: 1st semester:

“Senior Fall Block” includes Education coursework on MWF with fieldwork on T/Th. You will complete an edTPA project during this semester and submit it to an external examiner for review.

8. Senior year: 2nd semester:

Spring semester consists of a 14-week Clinical Practice – the capstone experience of the program! You will also complete a Senior Integration Project, take the GACE Content Assessments, take the GACE Educator Ethics Program Exit Exam, and complete a Georgia Certification Application.

9. Graduation: Upon completion of your degree and related requirements, you will receive a Certificate of Eligibility from the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC) stating that you have successfully completed a state approved Teacher Education Program. You will also be eligible to receive a Teaching Certificate from the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI).