MERCER UNIVERSITY | TIFT COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science in Education

INITIAL TEACHER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM



Mercer University's **Bachelor of Science in Education (B.S.Ed.)** programs prepare paraprofessionals, waiver teachers, and aspiring educators to become certified teachers in the State of Georgia. Successful program completion and passing scores on the appropriate Georgia Assessments for the Certification of Educators® (GACE®) Content Assessments, as approved by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC), lead to eligibility for Level 4 initial teacher certification.

LEARN MORE

Choose from four areas of study:

EARLY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT: BIRTH–K

The Early Learning and Development major prepares you to promote the success, development, and inclusion of all young learners in preschools, early learning centers, childcare centers, or early childcare agencies. An embedded Special Education Preschool (Ages 3–5) endorsement is included.

A non-certification track of the Early Learning and Development program is also offered.

ELEMENTARY/SPECIAL EDUCATION: GRADES P–5

The Elementary/Special Education major prepares you to understand young children from a holistic perspective and equips you to construct a classroom curriculum appropriate for a child's cognitive, emotional, social, and physical development.

SECONDARY EDUCATION: GRADES 6–12

The Secondary Education major prepares you to effectively facilitate learning for a group of individuals transitioning to adolescence and adulthood. Choose a concentration in English, History, Mathematics, or Political Science.

COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION: GRADES P–12

The Computer Science Education major prepares you to bridge the gap between technology and learning, equipping students with the knowledge and skills necessary for the digital age.

PROGRAM DETAILS

Format: Online coursework with in-person field experiences in a school near the student

Start Term: January, March, May, August, and October

Course Length: 8 weeks

Completion Time: 24-48 months, depending on transfer credits

100% of the College of Education graduating Class of 2025 was employed or in graduate school six months after earning a Mercer degree.*

*See methodology at mercer.edu/post-graduate.

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education.mercer.edu

Education programs that lead to initial and advanced certification are approved by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC).

PROGRAM OF STUDY

Early Learning and Development

General Education Requirements: 30 hours
Professional and Pedagogical Studies: 42 hours
Content Studies: 40 hours
Electives: 8 hours
Total Degree Requirements: 120 hours

Elementary/Special Education

General Education Requirements: 30 hours
Professional and Pedagogical Studies: 29 hours
Content Studies: 51 hours
Electives: 10 hours
Total Degree Requirements: 120 hours

Secondary Education

Concentrations: English | History | Mathematics | Political Science
General Education Requirements: 30-31 hours
Professional Pedagogical Studies: 41 hours
Content Studies: 27–30 hours
Electives: 19-22 hours
Total Degree Requirements: 120 hours

Computer Science Education

General Education Requirements: 31 hours
Professional Pedagogical Studies: 41 hours
Content Studies: 27-30 hours
Electives: 19-22 hours
Total Degree Requirements: 120 hours

For specific courses, consult the University catalog.

Admission Requirements

Applicants seeking undergraduate admission must have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale and must be in good standing at the college or university most recently attended. Applicants may be eligible to transfer credits toward the degree. Learn more and apply at **workingadults.mercer.edu**.

REQUIRED APPLICATION MATERIALS INCLUDE:

- Completed application for admission
- $25 non-refundable application fee ($50 for international students)
- Official transcripts from all previously attended institutions
- High school or GED transcript (if applicable)

Note: After being granted admission to the University, students must pass the Georgia Educator Ethics assessment, maintain a 2.5 GPA, complete general education requirements in math and writing, and complete an application for teacher candidacy to enroll in upper-level, restricted courses.

Tuition Benefit for Partner Schools

If your school district has an Enterprise Learning Partnership with Mercer, you may be eligible for a tuition benefit. Visit **elp.mercer.edu** to see if you qualify.

Initial Teacher Certification for Bachelor's Degree Holders

Students who already hold a bachelor's degree in a field other than education may wish to consider Mercer's Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) that leads to initial teacher certification. This option is beneficial for both recent college graduates and career changers.

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CONTACT US
Office of University Admissions
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workingadults.mercer.edu

BSED 10.23.26