Elementary Education (Teacher Certification), MEd

With accessible formats, personalized support and a commitment to transformative education, it's no wonder our graduate programs are highly ranked. No matter where you're located, you can earn your master's degree in as few as three semesters. Remote coursework paired with in-person internships and residencies prepares you to obtain teacher certification and thrive in the high-demand field of elementary education.

Program Description

**Degree Awarded: MEd Elementary Education (Teacher Certification)**

The MEd program in elementary education with a concentration in teacher certification is for those who already hold a bachelor's degree in any field and want to become licensed to teach grades K-8. The program builds on connections between educational design and decision-making and is designed to foster strong professional growth and leadership development.

All courses are offered remotely, and students select one of two modalities:

- **ASU Sync** offers regularly scheduled evening classes via synchronous learning over Zoom. Instructors and students are not in the same physical space but do meet at the same time, offering a live learning experience with peers and faculty. Students on I-20 visas are not permitted to complete courses via ASU Sync and should speak with an advisor about other options to complete this program.

- **ASU Online** offers classes via asynchronous instruction. Instructors and students are not in the same physical space and do not meet at the same time, allowing students to complete coursework on their own schedules. Students completing the program through ASU Online must be admitted to the online campus.

This program can be taken in three continuous semesters, allowing students to complete the program in one year. Students can also enroll part-time over additional semesters.
Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College faculty actively engage in the educational research community, bringing new and relevant knowledge into the program. Students engage in their own research through applied project coursework, deepening their knowledge and improving their practice through research, critical evaluation and application of education concepts.

A series of professional experiences assist students in developing a thorough understanding of teaching and learning as they apply knowledge from their coursework in varied school settings. Individualized guidance through the clinical framework provides students with the support they need to become effective educators.

This program offers two routes leading to Arizona teacher certification:

- In the traditional certification route, students conduct one internship or teaching residency per semester for at least three semesters. They begin by completing an internship in a local school and then progress to a full-time teaching residency.
- The alternative certification route provides an alternative pathway to teacher certification for individuals who are currently employed full-time by a school as a teacher of record. To qualify, individuals must secure a full-time teaching position in an approved content and grade level.

The coursework is the same in both certification routes and culminates in an action research project in which students apply what they've learned to address a challenge in their classroom.

Graduates earn an institutional recommendation from ASU that is recognized by the Arizona Department of Education for teacher certification in Elementary Education, K-8. In order to teach in an Arizona public school, graduates must pass the appropriate Arizona educator exams: National Evaluation Series or Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessments.

ASU Sync
Students seeking to use GI Bill® benefits for ASU Sync programs should contact the Pat Tillman Veterans Center regarding certain limitations.

GI Bill® is a registered trademark of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. More information about education benefits offered by VA is available at the official U.S. government website at https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College
- **Location:** ASU Sync or Online

Degree Requirements
40 credit hours including the required applied project course (EED 593) - Alternative Certification, or
40 credit hours including the required applied project course (EED 593) - Traditional Certification

**Required Core (8 credit hours)**
TEL 510 Instructional Design, Planning and Assessment (2)
TEL 511 Research and Evaluation in Education (2)
TEL 517 Creating Equitable Learning Environment: Decision Making and Action (3)
TEL 572 Educator Scholar Community III (1)

**Concentration (20 credit hours)**
EED 529 Science Teaching Methods for Elementary School (2)
EED 532 Literacy Methods of Instruction and Assessment for Diverse Learners (3)
EED 534 Social Studies Methods and Assessments (2)
EED 537 K-8 Mathematics Methods and Assessment (3)
TEL 502 Exploration of Education: Child/Adolescent Development and Foundations of Special Education (3)
TEL 531 Foundations of Literacy: The Science of Reading (3)
TEL 540 Cultivating Networks of Culturally Responsive Relationships Among Families, Communities and Cultures (2)
TEL 570 Educator Scholar Community I (1)
TEL 571 Educator Scholar Community II (1)

**SEI Endorsement (3 credit hours)**
ELL 515 Structured English Immersion Methods (3)

**Other Requirements (6 credit hours)**
6 credit hours of Alternative Certification Pathway courses, or
6 credit hours of Traditional Certification Pathway courses

**Culminating Experience (3 credit hours)**
EED 593 Applied Project (3)

**Additional Curriculum Information**
Students select one of the alternative certification or traditional certification pathways. For the teacher certification pathway requirements, students complete six credit hours from Internship, Apprentice Teaching or Student Teaching depending on pathway to certification.

Students switching pathways from alternative certification to traditional certification may substitute Apprentice Teaching for Student Teaching with department permission. Students switching pathways from traditional certification to alternative may substitute Student Teaching for 2 credits of Apprentice Teaching with department permission.

ELL 515 is substitutable with department approval.
Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in any field from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. three letters of recommendation
4. personal statement
5. resume
6. IVP fingerprint clearance card issued by the state of Arizona
7. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information

An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of their current residency.

The letters of recommendation should be from individuals who can speak to the applicant's potential for success in a graduate program.

The personal statement should describe the applicant's interests and reason for seeking this degree.

Tuition Information

When it comes to paying for college, everyone's situation is different. Students can learn about ASU tuition and financial aid options to find out which will work best for them.

Attend Online

ASU Online

ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may view the program's ASU Online page for program descriptions and to request more information.

Career Opportunities
Graduates of Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College are highly sought-after teachers in public, charter and private education institutions. They possess skills in teaching, conducting research, utilizing technology and collaborating in teams --- all of which prepares them to succeed in educational careers working with learners in grades K-8.

**Professional Licensure**

ASU programs that may lead to professional licensure or certification are intended to prepare students for potential licensure or certification in Arizona. Completion of an ASU program may not meet educational requirements for licensure or certification in another state. For more information, students should visit the [ASU professional licensure](#) webpage.

**Contact Information**

[Division of Teacher Preparation](#) | ED 118
[GraduateEducation@asu.edu](#) | 480-965-9995