Elementary Education (Teacher Certification), MEd

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 completing the program through ASU Sync must be admitted to the ASU Tempe campus, even though classes do not meet on campus. ASU Sync students need to reside in Arizona throughout the duration of the 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 on I-20 visas are not permitted to complete courses via Sync and should speak with an advisor about other options to complete this program.

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 on the official U.S. government website at [https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill](https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill).

**At a Glance**
Degree Requirements

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

**Required Core (8)**
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 Methods and Assessment (2)
EED 532 Literacy Methods of Instruction and Assessment for Diverse Learners (3)
EED 534 Social Studies Methods and The Arts (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)

**Other Requirements (6 credit hours)**

**Elective (3 credit hours)**

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

**Additional Curriculum Information**
Students select one of the alternative certification or traditional certification pathways.

Alternative pathway students choose six credit hours of apprentice teaching and internship as their other requirement coursework from a pre-approved list. At least four credits must be apprentice teaching.

Traditional pathway students choose six credit hours from internship and student teaching as their other required coursework from a pre-approved list. At least two credits must be internship and at least two credits must be student teaching.

Students should see the academic unit for the appropriate other required and elective coursework.
If a student plans to switch pathways mid-program, the student must reach out to the academic unit for appropriate advisement.

**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 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.

**Attend Online**

**ASU Online**

ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may view the program description and request more information [here](#).

**Career Opportunities**
Graduates of Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College are highly sought-out teachers in public, charter and private education institutions. Students gain 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: [https://admission.asu.edu/academics/licensure](https://admission.asu.edu/academics/licensure).

**Contact Information**

[Division of Teacher Preparation](mailto:Division of Teacher Preparation@asu.edu) | ED 118
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