



MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS ADVISING GUIDE: *Elementary Education Transfer*

The **Elementary Education Transfer major** is for students that want to teach grades 1-6 in a public or private school. Elementary students have to transfer to a four-year school in order to be certified by the Department of Education. Students who want to teach in public or private elementary school in grade K-2 can be either **Early Childhood** or **Early Childhood Transfer majors**. Elementary Education is a Liberal Arts and Science degree. Courses taken at MCC are to satisfy general education requirements, education classes are taken at the Bachelor's degree program.



EXPLORE YOUR OPTIONS WITH ACADEMIC ADVISING

Throughout each semester, meet with your advisor so that he/she can guide you through a self-exploration process that will help you identify your academic and career interests.

Beginning of Semester:

___ Schedule an appointment to meet with your academic advisor during the first few weeks to discuss future plans and how a Psychology Degree can help you achieve your goals.

___ Explore your personal interests by completing Focus2, an online career assessment tool:
<https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/careerservices/focus2.aspx>

Mid-Semester:

___ Schedule an appointment with academic advisor review your academic progress, Focus2 results and create an academic plan in Degree Works.

Before Semester Ends:

___ Schedule an appointment to discuss and register for the classes you will take the following semester.
(Early November for spring, Early April for fall and summer)

___ Visit the Academic Career & Transfer Center or call 1-800-818-3434 to schedule an appointment.

► INSIDE THIS GUIDE

- Exploring Your Options
- Personality Inventory
- Career Path
- Transfer Path

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION TRANSFER OUTCOMES

Graduates of the program are prepared to:

- Demonstrate effective written and oral communication;
- Demonstrate knowledge of issues pertaining to teaching;
- Interpret and analyze information in order to engage in critical thinking and problem solving;
- Demonstrate social responsibility

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IS THE EARLY CHILDHOOD MAJOR THE RIGHT FIT FOR ME?

To decide if the Elementary Education Transfer Major is right for you, answer the following questions:

- **Do you enjoy working with school age children?** ___Yes ___No

Elementary Education Transfer majors enjoy working with older children rather than younger children.

- **Do you want to teach in public school grades 1 to grade 6?** ___Yes ___No

The Elementary Education major covers grade 1 to 6. If a student wants to teach grades K, 1, or 2, you can choose either Early Childhood or Early Childhood Transfer.

- **Do you like taking work home with you?** ___Yes ___No

Many elementary teachers take work home with them at night. Sometimes it is grading papers; sometimes it is crating lesson plans or answering parent's emails.

- **Do you like to plan and research different lesson ideas?** ___Yes ___No

Teachers are required to plan their own lessons in the different content areas by using the Massachusetts Core Competencies and Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks.

- **Do you like to work with children with special needs?** ___Yes ___No

Many elementary education classrooms have children with diagnosed and undiagnosed special needs.

- **Do you like classes in music, art, science, math, and history and do you do well on standardized testing?** ___Yes ___No

Elementary Education majors have to take classes in music, art, math, science and history because they are going to have to teach those subjects to students in grades 1- 6. Students will have to take the General Curriculum (including Math), Foundations of Reading, and Communication and Literacy Massachusetts Teacher and Educator Licensure Tests (MTEL).

- **Are you prepared to get your Master's Degree in Education?** ___Yes ___No

Elementary Education majors are required to get a Bachelor's Degree Provisional Teaching License then have five years to get a Master's Degree in Education.

- **Do you like to take trainings and courses to further your education?** ___Yes ___No

Teachers are required to take credits to attain professional development points each year to maintain certification in their required field.

- **Do you have patience, understanding, compassion, and a desire to make a difference in someone's life?** ___Yes ___No

If you answered yes to all the above questions, then you should be an Elementary Education Transfer major!

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THE CAREER PATH

There are many and varied options to consider within the **Elementary Education Transfer Degree**. Here are some of the common career pathways:

- Public School Teacher in Grades 1-6
- Special Education Teacher
- Paraprofessional in Public School
- Guidance Counselor
- School Age Afterschool Program Director

Career Planning Activities:

- ___ Work with advisor to discuss *MassTransfer*, Articulations and transfer agreements
- ___ Visit your selected campuses in person. Every college looks good online or in a glossy photo, but you can get a better feel when you visit
- ___ Meet with transfer counselor to identify transfer scholarships.
- ___ Research admissions requirements and deadlines at 4-year colleges and universities



THE TRANSFER PATH

The Transfer Path process can be complex. A Transfer Counselor can help you with the process. There is an Education Transfer Articulation Compact with Salem State University and Fitchburg State University. Salem State University has a non-licensure track for preschool teachers, which means that you don't have to pass the Massachusetts Teacher and Educator Licensure (MTEL) tests. The education compact assures student that if they take the courses in the Program of Studies required for the major, the transfer college will accept the MCC credits, if the grades are higher than a C. If students choose another college that does not have the Education Transfer Compact, but has *MassTransfer* Compact, the students are guaranteed credit transfer to Massachusetts state universities. Students should check the requirements of the transfer institution and schedule a transfer counseling appointment with an advisor in the Academic, Career and Transfer Center to discuss specific program planning.

Transfer Planning Activities:

- ___ Work with Advisor to discuss *MassTransfer*, articulations and transfer agreements
- ___ Visit your selected campus in person. Every college looks good online or in a glossy photo but you can get a better feel when you visit
- ___ Meet with transfer counselor to identify transfer scholarships
- ___ Research admissions requirements and deadlines at 4-year colleges and universities

CRIMINAL OFFENDER RECORD INFORMATION (CORI) CHECKS:

In order for a student to be eligible to participate in an academic, community or clinical program that involves potential unsupervised contact with children, the disabled, or the elderly, the student may be required to undergo a Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) check. Students found to have certain criminal convictions or pending criminal actions will be presumed ineligible to participate in such activities.

MCC ADVISING RESOURCES

Career Services:

<https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/careerservices>

Transfer Services:

<https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/transfer>

MassTransfer:

<https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/transfer/masstransfer.aspx>

Financial Aid:

<https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/financialaid>

Foundation Scholarships:

<https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/foundation/scholarships>

College Board Match Maker:

<https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search>

Schools linked to the Elementary Education major through the Education Transfer Articulation Compact:

Salem State University Fitchburg State University

Schools linked to the Elementary Education major through *MassTransfer**:

Bridgewater State University
Framingham State University
Mass College of Liberal Arts
Worcester State University

Private Schools you can transfer to:

Wheelock College Lesley University

**You must have a 2.75 GPA and pass Communication and Literacy MTEL for admission*