

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION ARTICULATION AGREEMENT AND TRANSFER GUIDE FOR GRAND RAPIDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Ferris Program: Early Childhood Education

Degree Type: Bachelor of Science

Ferris College: College of Arts, Sciences, and Education

Transfer School: Grand Rapids Community College

Consortium Eligible: Yes

Articulation Agreement: Yes

Total Credits Required: 121-126

Catalog Year: 2025-2026

The effective dates for this articulation agreement are September 1, 2025 to September 1, 2028.

This Articulation Agreement and Transfer Guide establishes a transfer pathway from the Pre-Early Childhood Education, A.A. degree at Grand Rapids Community College into the Elementary Education, B.S. degree at Ferris State University.

If a student covered by this Program Agreement is enrolled in an approved course at the time that the Ferris program is revised or updated, Ferris agrees to accept those courses as outlined in the Program Agreement and apply them toward the relevant degree program.

GRCC Courses with an ^ are required for the GRCC Program.

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS – 40-41 Credits Required

Students are encouraged to work with an advisor to select appropriate general education courses. Diversity Competency - 2 Courses Required. If not met by courses taken for Culture, Self and Society, or MTA, a student must meet the following: 1 course with the Global Diversity attribute and 1 course with the U.S. Diversity attribute. Visit the Ferris State [general education page](#) for more information.

A "C" or higher is required in all courses within the program. A student must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 prior to Student Teaching.

Communication Competency

Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
COMM 121	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3	COM 131^
ENGL 150	English 1 (B or higher)	3	EN 101^
ENGL 250	English 2 (B or higher)	3	EN 102^
ENGL 321 or ENGL 323 or ENGL 325	Advanced Composition or Proposal Writing or Advanced Business Writing	3	No Equivalent

Quantitative Literacy Competency

Requirements for Quantitative Literacy Competency can be met with the following:

- Official Pre-2016 Math SAT Score of 560 or Higher

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

- Official Post-2016 Math SAT Score of 580 or Higher
- Official Math ACT Score of 24 or Higher

Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
MATH 114 or MATH 115 or MATH 117	Quantitative Reasoning for Professionals 2 or Intermediate Algebra or Contemporary Mathematics	3 - 4	MA 110^ or MA 107^ or MA 124^

Natural Sciences Competency

Two courses are required with a minimum of 6 credits: must have at least one lab course. BIOL 109 (BI 117 at GRCC) is required for the Child Life Specialist Concentration (ECSP).

Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
Varies	Natural Sciences Electives	6	Varies^

Culture Competency

Three courses are required with a minimum of 9 credits: must be from two different disciplines and have at least one at FSU 200 level or higher course.

Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
LITR 326	Children's Literature	3	EN 250^ *Approved Substitution
Varies	Culture Electives	3	Varies^
Varies	Culture Electives	3	Varies

Self and Society Competency

Three courses are required with a minimum of 9 credits: must be from two different disciplines and have at least one at FSU 200 level or higher course, and at least one Self and Society Foundation course. The courses listed below must be taken for the Child Life Specialist concentration. They can, however, apply to all Early Childhood concentrations. See Ferris advisor for course substitutions other than those listed.

Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
SOCY 121	Introductory Sociology	3	SO 251^
PSYC 150	Introduction to Psychology	3	PY 201^
SOCY 225	Marriage and the Family	3	SO 270^

COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS – 82-86 Credits Required

Major Requirements

67 Credits Required. These courses are used to calculate the major 2.75 GPA requirement.

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
EDCD 101	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	4	EDU 105 [^]
EDCD 112	Theories of Child Development	3	EDU 118 [^]
EDCD 115	Observation and Documentation of Children	3	EDU 212 [^]
EDCD 160	Role of the Early Childhood Teacher	3	No Equivalent
COHP 205	Child Care Food and Nutrition	3	No Equivalent
EDCD 206	Ethical Practices in Early Childhood	3	No Equivalent
EDCD 210	Methods for Teaching Infants and Toddlers	4	EDU 210 [^]
EDCD 211	Methods for Teaching Preschool and School Age Children	4	EDU 227 [^]
EDLA 261	Foundations of Literacy	3	EDU 205 [^]
EDCD 295	Early Childhood Education Practicum	6	EDU 280 [^] and EDU 285 [^]
EDCD 308	Teaching Special Needs in Early Childhood Education	3	EDU 230 [^]
EDCD 340	Family Engagement in Early Childhood	3	No Equivalent
EDCD 350	Curriculum Perspectives in Early Childhood Education	3	No Equivalent
EDCD 380	Advocacy in Early Childhood Education	3	No Equivalent
EDCD 425	Assessment and Research Methods in Early Childhood	4	No Equivalent
EDCD 450	Current Issues in Early Childhood Education	3	No Equivalent
EDCD 495	Early Childhood Education Internship	12	No Equivalent

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

CONCENTRATION – 15-19 Credits Required

One concentration is required (requires declaration).

Birth Through Kindergarten Concentration (BIRK)

19 Credits Required. These courses are used to calculate the concentration 2.50 GPA requirement.

Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
EDCD 310	Child Guidance	3	EDU 215 [^]
EDLA 311	Advanced Foundations of Literacy Pre-Kindergarten through Third Grade	3	No Equivalent
EDCD 408	Individualized Educational Plan/ Individualized Family Service Plan Planning and Development	3	No Equivalent
EDLA 411	Literacy Instruction and Assessment Pre-Kindergarten through Third Grade	4	No Equivalent
EDCD 440	Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math in Early Childhood	3	No Equivalent
EDCD 488	Early Childhood Special Education Internship	3	No Equivalent

Child Life Specialist Concentration (ECSP)

17 Credits Required. These courses are used to calculate the concentration 2.50 GPA requirement.

Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
COHP 100	Orientation to Medical Vocabulary	1	GH 110 [^]
EDUC 251	Human Growth Development	3	No Equivalent
COMM 320	Family Communication	3	No Equivalent
PSYC 345	Psychology of Death and Dying	3	GO 263 [^]
SOCY 373	Health and Illness in Society	3	No Equivalent
EDCD 430	Introduction to Child Life Specialist Program	4	No Equivalent

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Early Childhood Lead Teacher Concentration (ECLT)

16 Credits Required. These courses are used to calculate the concentration 2.50 GPA requirement.

Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
EDCD 310	Child Guidance	3	EDU 215 [^]
EDLA 311	Advanced Foundations of Literacy Pre-Kindergarten through Third Grade	3	No Equivalent
EDCD 408	Individualized Educational Plan/ Individualized Family Service Plan Planning and Development	3	No Equivalent
EDLA 411	Literacy Instruction and Assessment Pre-Kindergarten through Third Grade	4	No Equivalent
EDCD 440	Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math in Early Childhood	3	No Equivalent

Early Childhood Management Concentration (ECMG)

15 Credits Required. These courses are used to calculate the concentration 2.50 GPA requirement.

Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
ACCT 201	Principles of Financial Accounting	3	BA 256
MGMT 301	Applied Management	3	BA 283
MGMT 310	Small Business Management	3	BA 286 [^]
MKTG 321	Principles of Marketing	3	BA 270 [^]
EDCD 410	Early Childhood Education Management and Leadership	3	EDU 218 [^]

PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION

College of Arts, Sciences, and Education
School of Education
(231) 591-5361
SOE@Ferris.edu

Ferris State - Grand Rapids
(616) 451-4777

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

New Student Admission Requirements

- 2.50 High School GPA (on a 4.00 scale)
- Minimum Composite ACT Score of 17/SAT 900

Transfer Student Admission Requirements

- Combined college or university GPA of 2.00 (on a 4.00 scale) from all institutions attended. GPA based on completion of 12 transferable semester credit hours or more.
- The degree completion program at a statewide and online location requires 48 transferable semester credits to be admitted.
- Completion of ENGL 150 or transfer equivalent of C grade or higher
- Transfer equivalency for Ferris State University's MATH 114/115/117 or placement during the first semester at Ferris State University which would require a Math ACT score of 19 or higher; Math SAT of 500 or higher; or Math Accuplacer scores: Elementary Algebra score 75 or higher and College Level Math 0 to 49.

Ferris State - Grand Rapids

(616) 451-4777

FSUGR@Ferris.edu

MORE INFORMATION

To fulfill the residency requirement for a bachelor's degree a student must earn a minimum of 30 credits from Ferris State University.

Steps to Apply

- Complete your [free application](#).
- Submit official transcripts
 - Submit official transcripts from every school attended to Transfer@Ferris.edu
 - Or mail to:
Ferris State University Admissions Office
1201 S. State St., CSS 201
Big Rapids, MI 49307
- Submit test scores (if required)
 - ACT Scores; go to the [ACT website](#) - Ferris State University School Code: 1994
 - SAT, CLEP and AP Scores; go to the [College Board website](#) - Ferris State University School Code: 1222

Advising Notes

It is recommended that potential applicants meet with an advisor to review the degree, course schedule, transfer policies and have any questions answered prior to completing an application. Ferris accepts transfer courses in which the student earned a letter grade of "C" or better. Additional policies such as the Ferris Sunset and Residency Requirement should be discussed with a Ferris advisor. Students who are completing the MTA may have different general education course requirements for the particular degree selected.

Meeting with a Ferris advisor prior to the selection of general education or elective coursework may reduce the chance of completing a course that will not apply toward the selected degree. Students must work with their Ferris advisor to declare a Minor or Concentration and for the selection of Directed Electives.

Once admitted, students are required to complete an orientation and should continue to meet with an advisor as they work toward graduation.

To schedule an appointment or for additional transfer resources and policies see our [Transfer Resource page](#).

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

*Indicates an approved Ferris course substitution

Reverse Transfer Agreement

Ferris has reverse transfer agreements with several Michigan Community Colleges. Under such agreement, Ferris will provide your official University transcript to a partner school you have attended, so that they may grant you an associate or bachelor's degree upon completion of sufficient and appropriate credit hours from both institutions. In turn, the degree-granting institution will provide Ferris with an updated transcript reflecting the newly earned credential.

Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA)

Ferris participates in the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA). This agreement will facilitate the transfer of general education requirements from one Michigan institution to another. Students may complete the MTA as part of a degree program or as a stand-alone package. The MTA consists of a minimum of 30 general education credit hours as identified by the college or university.

Students transferring to Ferris with the Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA) and entering a degree program will have met a 30-hour block of lower-level general education courses. However, this does not exempt students from completing program-specific prerequisites or higher-level general education course requirements. Students should contact their advisor regarding classes that meet the MTA.

Transfer Equivalencies Tools

The transfer equivalencies link is located in the Transfer Resources section at transfer.ferris.edu.

Disclaimer

Transfer guides are not intended to be a contract with Ferris. The information in this guide is subject to change and is aligned with the catalog year listed above. Students should contact their community college and/or Ferris to keep informed of changes. Students' final responsibility for verifying all transfer information lies with the student. Please refer to the [Ferris catalog](#) for the most current curriculum.

Partners may contact the Office of Transfer and Secondary School Partnerships with questions or updates at TransferGuidesArticulations@Ferris.edu.

ARTICULATION AGREEMENT

The original, signed document is kept on file in the Office of Extended and International Operations (EIO). To obtain a copy of the original, signed document, please email TransferGuidesArticulations@ferris.edu.