

Ferris Program: Early Childhood Education

Degree Type: Bachelor of Science

Ferris College: College of Arts, Sciences, and Education

Transfer School: Kalamazoo Valley Community College

Consortium Eligible: Yes

Total Credits Required: 122-127

Catalog Year: 2025-2026

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS – 40 Credits Required

Courses in this section are required to satisfy the University General Education Requirements for a bachelor's degree. The University General Education requirements can be found on the: [Ferris State University General Education Requirements Webpage](#).

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.

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 101
ENGL 150	English 1	3	ENG 110
ENGL 250	English 2	3	ENG 111
(Choose 1 of 3) ENGL 321 or ENGL 323 or ENGL 325	Advanced Composition	3	No Equivalent

Quantitative Literacy Competency

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

- Official Pre-2016 Math SAT Score of 560 or Higher
- 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	Quantitative Reasoning for Professionals 2	4	MATH 115

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
MATH 117			

Natural Sciences Competency

Two courses are required with a minimum of 6 credits: must have at least one lab course. BIOL 109 (KVCC BIO 110) is required for the Child Life Specialist Concentration (ECSP).

Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
Varies	Varies (Advisor Approval)	6	Varies or BIO 100 and/or EDU 207

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	ENG 242
Varies	Varies (Advisor Approval)	6	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.

Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
SOCY 121 or Varies	Introductory Sociology	3	SOC 102 (required for Child Life Specialist only) or Varies or PSI 101
PSYC 150 or Varies	Introduction to Psychology	3	PSY 150 (required for Child Life Specialist only) or Varies or PSY 160
SOCY 225 or Varies	Marriage and the Family	3	SOC 200 (required for Child Life Specialist only) or Varies

COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS – 82-86 Credits Required

Major Courses

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	*Waived with Associate's Degree
EDCD 112	Theories of Child Development	3	EDU 230
EDCD 115	Observation and Documentation of Children	3	EDU 110
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 Infant and Toddlers	4	No Equivalent
EDCD 211	Methods for Teaching Preschool and School Age Children	4	No Equivalent
EDLA 261	Foundations of Literacy	3	EDU 109
EDCD 295	Early Childhood Education Practicum	6	No Equivalent
EDCD 308	Teaching Special Needs in Early Childhood Education	3	No Equivalent or *Substitute EDU 217
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

CONCENTRATIONS – 15-19 Credits Required

Birth Through Kindergarten Concentration (BIRK)

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

Ferris Course	Ferris Course Title	Ferris Credit Hours	Transfer Course
ECD 310	Child Guidance	3	No Equivalent
EDLA 311	Advanced Foundations of Literacy Pre-Kindergarten through Third Grade	3	No Equivalent
ECD 408	Individualized Educational Plan/ Individualized Family Service Planning and Development	3	No Equivalent
EDLA 411	Literacy Instruction and Assessment Pre-Kindergarten through Third Grade	4	No Equivalent
ECD 440	Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math in EEarly Childhood	3	No Equivalent
ECD 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	HCR 116
EDUC 251	Human Growth Development	3	PSY 160
COMM 320	Family Communication	3	No Equivalent
PSYC 345	Psychology of Death and Dying	3	No Equivalent
SOCY 373	Health and Illness in Society	3	No Equivalent
ECD 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	No Equivalent
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	ACC 101
MGMT 301	Applied Management	3	No Equivalent
MGMT 310	Small Business Management	3	BUS 115
MKTG 321	Principles of Marketing	3	BUS 105
EDCD 410	Early Childhood Education Management and Leadership	3	No Equivalent

PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Ferris Statewide - Kalamazoo Valley Community College
(269) 488-4039

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.
- Completion of ENGL 150 or transfer equivalent of C grade or higher
- Completion of MATH 114, 115, or 117 or transfer equivalent of C grade or higher.
- The degree completion program at a statewide and online location requires 30 transferable semester credits to be admitted and completion of ENGL 150, ENGL 250, COMM 121, MATH 114, 115 or 117, or transfer equivalent courses of C grade or higher.

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](#).

*Indicates an approved Ferris course substitution

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

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.