

**Ferris Program:** Early Childhood Education

**Degree Type:** Bachelor of Science

**Ferris College:** College of Arts, Sciences, and Education

**Transfer School:** Southwestern Michigan College

**Consortium Eligible:** Yes

**Total Credits Required:** 122-127

**Catalog Year:** 2025-2026

**GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS – 40 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.

**If seeking the Birth Through Kindergarten concentration, 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                   | SPEE 102                                   |
| ENGL 150                         | English 1   | 3                   | ENGL 103 or ENGL 103W                      |
| ENGL 250                         | English 2   | 3                   | ENGL 104                                   |
| ENGL 321 or ENGL 323 or ENGL 325 | Advanced Composition or Proposal Writing or Advanced Business Writing | 3                   | No Equivalent or ENGL 228 or 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 MATH 117 | Quantitative Reasoning for Professionals 2 or Intermediate Algebra or Contemporary Mathematics | 4 or 3 or 4         | No Equivalent or MATH 127 or MATH 128 |

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## Natural Sciences Competency

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

| Ferris Course | Ferris Course Title                | Ferris Credit Hours | Transfer Course       |
|---------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| BIOL 109      | Basic Human Anatomy/<br>Physiology | 3                   | BIOL 110 or<br>Varies |
| Varies        | Natural Sciences<br>Electives      | 3                   | 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                   | ENGL 251              |
| RELG 215 or<br>Varies | Comparative Religions or<br>Culture Electives | 3                   | PHIL 201 or<br>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                   | SOCI 201 (required for<br>Child Life Specialist) or<br>varies |
| PSYC 150      | Introduction to<br>Psychology | 3                   | PSYC 101 (required for<br>Child Life Specialist) or<br>varies |
| SOCY 225      | Marriage and the Family       | 3                   | SOCI 203 (required for<br>Child Life Specialist) or<br>Varies |

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS – 82-86 Credits Required

### Major Requirements

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

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| <b>Ferris Course</b> | <b>Ferris Course Title</b>                             | <b>Ferris Credit Hours</b> | <b>Transfer Course</b>                    |
|----------------------|--|----------------------------|---|
| EDCD 101             | Introduction to Early Childhood Education              | 4                          | *Waived with completed Associate's Degree |
| EDCD 112             | Theories of Child Development                          | 3                          | No Equivalent                             |
| EDCD 115             | Observation and Documentation of Children              | 3                          | No Equivalent                             |
| EDCD 160             | Role of the Early Childhood Teacher                    | 3                          | EDUC 115                                  |
| 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                          | EDUC 208                                  |
| EDCD 211             | Methods for Teaching Preschool and School Age Children | 4                          | EDUC 224                                  |
| EDLA 261             | Foundations of Literacy                                | 3                          | EDUC 260                                  |
| EDCD 295             | Early Childhood Education Practicum                    | 6                          | No Equivalent                             |
| EDCD 308             | Teaching Special Needs in Early Childhood Education    | 3                          | No Equivalent                             |
| 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                             |

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## 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                   | EDUC 220        |
| 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                   | HEED 101        |
| EDUC 251      | Human Growth Development                      | 3                   | EDUC 215        |
| 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   |
| EDCD 430      | Introduction to Child Life Specialist Program | 4                   | No Equivalent   |

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## 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                   | EDUC 220        |
| EDLA 311      | Advanced Foundations of Literacy Pre-Kindergarten through Third Grade                           | 3                   | No Equivalent   |
| EDCD 408      | Individualized Educational Plan/<br>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                   | ACCO 201        |
| MGMT 301      | Applied Management                                  | 3                   | BUSI 201        |
| MGMT 310      | Small Business Management                           | 3                   | BUSI 200        |
| MKTG 321      | Principles of Marketing                             | 3                   | BUSI 220        |
| EDCD 410      | Early Childhood Education Management and Leadership | 3                   | EDUC 230        |

## PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Ferris Statewide - Southwestern Michigan College  
(269) 782-1214

## 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.

## 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](mailto: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

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## 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](https://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](mailto: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](mailto:TransferGuidesArticulations@ferris.edu).

Updated: 09/17/2024