



Proposed Program: _____ CIP: _____ Effective Date (Term/Year): Fall / 2026 (e.g. Fall/2020)

8/29/25

Updated: Summer 2024

Proposal for the B.A./B.A.E. to M.Ed in Elementary Education Program

The Department of Curriculum and Instruction (College of Education-COE) is proposing a B.A./B.A.E in Elementary Education to M.Ed. in Elementary Education program, allowing students to earn both a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a master's degree in elementary education within one year after earning the bachelor's degree. This degree will also include Florida teaching certification, ESOL endorsement, and Reading Endorsement. This streamlined program will prepare students for immediate entry into the teaching profession, equipping them with both deep content knowledge and the pedagogical expertise required for licensure. With a 4+1 Master's pathway in Elementary Education, FAU can replicate a proven model that enhances recruitment, retention, financial accessibility, and alignment with statewide education goals. This program would offer FAU a competitive edge within the SUS while strengthening the pipeline into the Master's in Elementary Education program and improving institutional outcomes across the board. See below for additional rationale:

1. **Peer Benchmarking: FSU & Other SUS Institutions** -FSU already offers a BS/MS combined pathway in Elementary Education, enabling students to complete both degrees in approximately five years. By creating a similar 4+1 pathway, FAU would join FSU and potentially other SUS institutions in offering a high-impact, accelerated route that appeals to motivated education students. Students would also qualify for advanced pay within the school district after receiving their Master's degree.
2. **Strategic Enrollment Growth & Financial Efficiency:** A 4+1 pathway appeals to students who want to fast-track professional education credentials, especially dual-degree aspirants who value time-saving and affordability. Currently, FAU's Master's in Elementary Education targets certified K–6 teachers. A 4+1 stream expands eligibility—allowing undergraduate students to transition directly—and thus boost the funnel into the M.Ed. program.
3. **Enhanced Student Experience and Institutional Outcomes:** Structured advising, cohort continuity, and early exposure to graduate-level pedagogy build stronger professional identity and preparation. The SUS Board of Governors' performance-based funding model values graduation rates, time-to-degree, and post-graduation outcomes. A 4+1 program at FAU could positively impact these institutional metrics.

Rationale for Shared Courses

The Department of Curriculum and Instruction currently offers multiple teacher certification graduate courses that meet the same state certification criteria as undergraduate courses in order to serve both undergraduate and graduate students who

are completing teacher certification programs. Therefore, students within this 4+1 program would take the graduate version of the course listed on their undergraduate flight plan (MAE 4350/MAE 6151, SSE 4150/SSE 6151, SCE 4350/SCE 6151, RED 4348/RED 6836 (See attached flight plan).

Admission Requirements and Timeline

Students enrolled in prerequisite courses (EDF 2005 and EME 2040) for the Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education will receive an invitation to apply for the 4+1 program before they begin their first semester of College of Education coursework. Additional invitations to apply will be distributed through the College of Education advising office and posted throughout the College of Education. Students must apply before their third semester in the program since they will begin taking graduate courses the next semester. Application requirements for the 4+1 program mirror the criteria for the standalone graduate program:

1. Students must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher
2. Students submit two letters of recommendation checklists from prior/current instructors (see sample included)
3. Students write a personal statement outlining interest in the program

Upon acceptance, students will be given the 4+1 flight plan (see attached) to ensure they are taking the 12 graduate credits within the third, fourth and final semester of their program and the remaining 24 credits in the last three graduate semesters of their program. Students will be awarded each degree separately upon completion of the individual degree requirements. They will be state certified to teach upon completion of their Bachelor's degree. Transfer students will have the option to apply upon transfer, but flight plans may need to be individualized based on the coursework previously taken.

Advising

Students will be advised by the department's Director of Undergraduate Programs throughout the undergraduate semesters and then transferred to the Coordinator of Graduate Programs once they enter the graduate semesters of their program. This allows the student to have the appropriate advisor available to them to prepare for student teaching and certification exams (undergrad) and to select appropriate electives (graduate).

Sample Letter of Recommendation Checklist for 4+1 Program Applicants

Student Name:

Professor Name:

Course(s) Taught to Student:

1. Please rate the student's performance in your class(es):

☐ Excellent (Top 5%)

☐ Very Good (Top 10%)

☐ Above Average (Top 25%)

☐ Average

☐ Below Average

Brief Comments (e.g., GPA, quality of work, intellectual engagement):

2. Rate the student in the following areas:

Attribute	Excellent	Very Good	Average	Needs Improvement
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Attribute	Excellent	Very Good	Average	Needs Improvement
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Critical Thinking	☐	☐	☐	☐
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Written Communication	☐	☐	☐	☐
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Oral Communication	☐	☐	☐	☐
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Research and Inquiry	☐	☐	☐	☐
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Time Management / Reliability	☐	☐	☐	☐
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Initiative / Motivation	☐	☐	☐	☐
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Collaboration / Teamwork	☐	☐	☐	☐
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Leadership Potential	☐	☐	☐	☐
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Professionalism	☐	☐	☐	☐
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Additional comments on any key strengths or areas for growth:

3. In your opinion, how well prepared is this student for graduate-level work?

☐ Exceptionally well prepared

☐ Well prepared

☐ Adequately prepared

☐ Needs further development

4. How strongly do you recommend this student?

☐ Recommend without reservation

☐ Recommend with confidence

☐ Recommend with some reservation

☐ Do not recommend



Department of Curriculum and Instruction
College of Education
Florida Atlantic University

4 +1 Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education
with ESOL/Reading Endorsement **and**
Master's Degree in Elementary Education

The Department of Curriculum and Instruction offers a 4+1 Master's Degree Pathway. This program includes a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education with ESOL/ Reading Endorsement for grades K-6, immersed with a Master's degree in Elementary Education. The courses listed below are required for the Bachelor's degree, followed by the Master's degree.

INFORMATION SHEET

EDF 2005* (3 credits Intro to Teaching Profession *(requires 15 hours field component)*)
EME 2040 (3 credits) Intro to Technology for Educators

First Semester

LAE 4353 (3 credits) Language Arts and Literature: Birth – Grade 8
TSL 4080 (3 credits) Intro to Theories and Practices of TESOL
ARE 4313 (3 credits) Art Elementary School
EDF 3203 (3 credits) Equity Issues in Multicultural Education
EME 4312 (3 credits) Educational Technology for 21st Century Teachers

Second Semester

MAE 4310 (3 credits) Mathematics Content and Standards for K-6 Teachers
SCE 4113 (3 credits) Science Content and Standards for K-6 Teachers
EDF 3430 (3 credits) Educational Measurement and Evaluation
EDF 3210 (3 credits) Applied Learning Theory
EEX 4070 (3 credits) Inclusive Education for General Educators

Third Semester

RED 4308*(P) (3 credits) Reading Development I: Birth – Grade 3
RED 4750 (P) (3 credits) Reading Development II: Grades 3 – 8
SCE 6151 (3 credits) Science: Elementary & Middle School
SSE 6151 (3 credits) Social Studies: Elementary & Middle School

Fourth Semester

EDG 3324 (P)** (3 credits) Effective Teaching Practices
EEX 4616 (P) (3 credits) Classroom Management for Inclusive Elementary Schools
MAE 6151 (3 credits) Mathematics: Elementary & Middle School
RED 4552 (P) (3 credits) Reading Diagnosis & Remediation: Pre-K--Grade 8
TSL 4081*(P) (3 credits) TESOL Issues & Practices

Final Semester (All courses listed above must be completed prior to student teaching)

EDE 4943 (P) (6-10 credits) Student Teaching Elementary (Fall or Spring only)
RED 6836 (P) (3 credits) Reading Practicum

* Denotes Field Experience Hours ** Denotes 90 Field Experience Hours

(P) Students must be admitted and programmed into the College of Education prior to enrolling in these courses.

Courses in **BOLD** are not offered in the summer.

All courses will be available as program progresses.

Courses in the third, fourth, and final semesters require LAE 4353 and TSL 4080 as a pre-requisite

UPPER DIVISION TOTAL 63 credits

July 2025

Master's Degree (M.Ed.) in Elementary Education (K-6)

The Master's Degree in Elementary Education provides an opportunity for teachers to earn a 36-credit master's degree to advance their knowledge in the field of elementary education. Students will have an opportunity to deepen their pedagogical knowledge and content knowledge through flexible coursework.

INFORMATION SHEET

Graduate Semester (Summer):

STA 6113: Educational Statistics

Elective

Elective

Graduate Semester (Fall):

EDE 6205: Curriculum-Elementary School

Core Course (student choice)

Graduate Semester (Spring):

EDF 6481: Educational Research

Elective

Elective

Elective courses must be approved by assigned graduate advisor.

4+1 ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All students seeking admission to the undergraduate program in Elementary Education must first meet the University general upper-division admission requirements(see catalog). In addition, each applicant must:

1. have attained an overall grade point average of 3.0 or higher;
2. be assigned to and programmed by an academic advisor; and
3. be recommended for admission to the program by the Department of Teaching and Learning and be approved by the Office for Academic Student Services.

Students must be formally admitted into the College of Education prior to enrolling in EDG 3324, RED 4308, RED 4750, RED 4552, TSL 4081, EDE 4943, and RED 6836 (during the student teaching semester).

Course Number/Subject	Notes to Read Carefully
1. Live Text	An active Live Text account is requirement for all program coursework
2. EDF 2005 and EME 2040	Or community college equivalents are program prerequisite requirements
3. See Undergraduate Catalog	For General Education Lower Division Preparation requirements
4. Grading Policy	Students must pass ALL Teacher Education courses with a "C" or better. A "C-" is not considered a passing grade, and the course must be retaken
5. Out-of-State Transfer Students	Must take EDG 3324 at FAU
6. EDG 3324	By permission only. Student must meet COE eligibility requirements before registering for this course. Requires an additional day per week in a public school setting during the fall or spring semester. Not offered in the summer term. Students should plan to enroll in this course during the fall or spring semester.
7. EDG 3324 Grading Policy	If a student earns a "D" or an "F" in the field evaluation component or a "D" or an "F" in the course work component, then the highest grade the student can receive for the course is a "C-". A "C-" is not considered a passing grade, and the course must be retaken. No student can take any ETP class more than twice.
8. TSL 4081	By permission only. Student must meet COE eligibility requirements before registering for this course. Not offered in the summer term. Students should plan to enroll in this course during the fall or spring semester.
9. Graduate coursework	The following graduate courses will be taken in the place of undergraduate courses: SCE 6151, SSE 6151, MAE 6151, RED 6368
10. RED 4308/RED 4750	Students must pass RED 4308 or must be taken concurrently with RED 4750. RED 4308 must be taken prior to RED 4552.
11. TSL 4080	Students must pass TSL 4080 prior to taking TSL 4081. TSL 4080 may <u>not</u> be taken concurrently in one semester with TSL 4081.
12. Field Experience in School Settings	Are required in some Elementary Education methods courses
13. Student Teaching	All program courses must be completed prior to being placed for student teaching. Both Professional and Subject sections of the FTCE must be passed prior to being placed for student teaching.
14. EDE 4943 (Student Teaching)	Requires that the student is in a public school setting five full days a week during the school day during the fall or spring semester.
15. EDE 4945 (One-Year Student Teaching Option)	Students who choose the one-year student option (EDE 4945) will not enroll in EDG 3324. Since the content of that course will be integrated into the fall semester portion of this student teaching option, students will also enroll in RED 4552 and TSL 4081 in the fall semester with EDE 4945.
16. State of Florida Teacher Certification	Requires all applicants to be fingerprinted and screened by the FBI for felony convictions. School districts also require a fingerprint check and screening for school-based clinical teaching assignments. Students with felony records will NOT be permitted to be placed in internship settings and will NOT be permitted to successfully complete the program of studies for their degree and/or certification. Consequently, students with a record of felony convictions(s) will NOT be eligible for admission to a teacher preparation program at Florida Atlantic University.
17. Contact the Office of Academic and Student Services (OASS) for Help	Boca Raton Campus (561) 297-3570

Catalog Addition to Combined Program Section:

([Degree Programs | Florida Atlantic University](#))

**BACHELOR OF URBAN DESIGN/MASTER OF URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING
ADVANCED STANDING PROGRAM (B.U.D./M.U.R.P.)**

([College of Science](#))

DOCTOR OF MEDICINE/DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY in Integrative Biology (M.D./PH.D.)

([College of Medicine](#))

**MASTER OF EDUCATION/SPECIALIST IN EDUCATION (M.Ed./Ed.S.) in Counselor
Education**

([College of Education](#))

ADDITION:

**BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION (B.A./B.A.E) TO MASTERS IN
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION (M.Ed.)**

Graduate Degree Programs

MASTER OF ACCOUNTING (M.AC.)

([College of Business](#))

Catalog addition to Combined Degree section for College of Education ([College of Education Programs | Florida Atlantic University](#))

Combined Degree Program Information

This combined program in Counselor Education pairs the 60-credit Master of Education program with the Specialist in Education program. Students enrolled in this program apply once and are eligible to graduate with their master's degree after they have completed 60 credits of coursework. After completing an additional 12 credits for a total of 72, students would receive their specialist in education degree. [See relevant section below.](#)

ADDITION

Curriculum and Instruction

Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education (B.A./B.A.E) to Master of Elementary Education (M.Ed.)

Combined Program

This Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education to Master of Elementary Education in a combined program that allows Elementary Education majors to complete an additional year of coursework to obtain a Masters in Elementary Education degree. This degree will also include Florida teaching certification, ESOL endorsement, and Reading Endorsement. Students will take 12 graduate credits as part of their undergraduate coursework and complete the remaining 24 credits after they complete the requirements for their Bachelor's program.

Application requirements for the combined program mirror the criteria for the standalone graduate program:

1. Students must have a 3.0 or higher in undergraduate coursework
2. Students must submit two letters of recommendation checklists from prior/current instructors (see sample included)
3. Students must write a personal statement outlining interest in the program

Department Chair Communication

Re: Proposed 4+1 degree for Masters in Elementary Education

Florida Atlantic University
777 Glades Road
Boca Raton, FL 33431-0991

From: Joseph Brojomohun-Gagnon <josephgagnon@fau.edu>
Sent: Thursday, August 14, 2025 10:38 AM
To: Michelle McGovern <mvaughn3@fau.edu>
Subject: Re: Proposed 4+1 degree for Masters in Elementary Education

Hi.
I looked at it a few days ago—sorry for not responding. It looks good to me and there are no conflicts.
Cheers,
Joe

Joseph Calvin Gagnon, Ph.D.
Professor & Department Chair
Department of Special Education

Florida Atlantic University
Bldg 47 (Room 412), Boca Raton, FL 33431
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josephgagnon@fau.edu

ORCID ID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3266-5843>
Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=E91DESMAAAA&hl=en>
Researchgate: <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Joseph-Gagnon>

Elizabeth Sacks
To: @ Michelle McGovern; @ Robert Shockley; @ Joseph Brojomohun-Gagnon; @ Dale Williams Sat 8/9/2025 1:53 PM
Cc: @ Sabrina Sembiente

Hi Michelle,

Counselor Education is in support of the proposal.

Warmly,

Elizabeth Villares Sacks, Ph.D.
Chair and Professor
Department of Counselor Education

FAU SWELL Program Director
FAU WAVES PI and Program Director

Florida Atlantic University
777 Glades Rd.



Robert Shockley

To: @ Michelle McGovern



Mon 8/11/2025 10:22 AM



Michelle,

No conflicts with ELRM. RS

Robert Shockley, Chair
Educational Leadership and Research Methodology
ED 47 Room 260A
777 Glades Rd.
Boca Raton, FL 33431
(561)297-3551



Dale Williams

To: @ Michelle McGovern



Wed 8/13/2025 11:59 AM

No conflicts with CSD. Good luck.

Dale

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