“I decided to attend UVM because of the culture. People are very open-minded, embracing diversity and change. And I really like that CESS has small classes and offers individualized attention. Everyone is close-knit and supportive of each other. Professors are advocates for change within education and beyond which is very important to me. Having the opportunity to work with different groups of children allowed me to learn so much from every child.”
— Rosalva Aguilar ’20, Elementary School Teacher, Queens, New York

“We have the unique opportunity to spend our days with young children, growing empathy, kindness, curiosity, and belonging. One of our primary jobs is to ensure that all children love being at school and the dispositions we cultivate are the foundation for this. As I learned in the Early Childhood Program and continue to follow to this day, it is all about relationships.”
— Adam Deyo ’99, G’03, Kindergarten Teacher, Allen Brook Elementary School, Williston, Vermont

“UVM’s Early Childhood Education program puts a strong emphasis on family-centered learning. Professors and mentor teachers have made this experience the most fulfilling journey. They all truly want to prepare us for life in the field and honor who we are as individuals.”
— Ella McCarthy ’22, VTAEYC 2022 Early Childhood Education Student of the Year
Studying Inclusive Early Childhood Education at UVM

B.S.Ed. in Early Childhood Education (Birth-Grade 3)

UVM’s nationally accredited Early Childhood Education program provides unique and flexible pathways for aspiring educators. Discover our distinctive approach for preparing outstanding professionals to support diverse populations. Our program includes the following:

- Multiple field experiences beginning in the first year—our signature “early and often” approach
- Student teaching internships working with young children and families in diverse school communities, fully supported by dedicated faculty and mentor teachers
- Research-informed teaching practices and innovative coursework with a focus on hands-on learning, sustainability, inclusion and social justice Experience working in multicultural communities
- Optional minors, dual certification, and accelerated master’s degree pathways to enhance your resume and professional opportunities

Impacting Communities in a Rewarding Profession

Teaching in the field of Early Childhood Education feels like a journey full of discovery, personal connections, laughter and fond memories.

Early Childhood Education is a growing field with a dramatic increase in public support and scholarship opportunities.

Individualized Pathways in a Collaborative Environment

We offer flexible pathways to match your interests and goals, and provide holistic advising and support to ensure your success in our collaborative community. Meaningful connections with peers, faculty, mentors and community leaders endure well beyond your time at UVM.

“"The students' curiosity and excitement for life is infectious. I find great joy in watching their personalities unfold and their knowledge expand.” — Maia Hendrickson ’21

Minors & Certificate Programs

You may enjoy the opportunity to minor in a variety of fields to supplement your credentials. Choices include Special Education, Education for Cultural and Linguistic Diversity, Place-Based Education, Human Development and Family Studies, American Sign Language, Coaching, and more.

Dual Licensure

Another way to enhance your resume is by adding dual certification for licensure in Education for Cultural and Linguistic Diversity.

Exciting Research Opportunities

You can choose to collaborate with faculty, students, and community partners on innovative research projects. Another option is to pursue research topics of interest through independent study.

Global Study Abroad Options

Interested in exploring other cultures? We offer study abroad to New Zealand, Finland, France, Italy, Portugal (Azores Islands), and more.

Accelerated Master’s Degree

UVM's accelerated master’s degree pathways in Special Education (K-age 21), Early Childhood Special Education (birth-age 6), or Educational Leadership and Policy Studies allow you to earn both your bachelor’s and master’s degrees within five years, saving time and money in pursuit of an advanced degree.

Prepare to Teach Anywhere

Nationally accredited teacher education programs at UVM enjoy licensure reciprocity agreements with other states, so you will be able to teach almost anywhere. Some of our graduates choose to teach internationally in countries all around the world.