

Pre-K Academy



ARKANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY

EARLY CHILDHOOD PRE-K TEACHER CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

ALTERNATIVE EARLY CHILDHOOD PRE-K INITIAL LICENSURE SUMMER 2026

The A-State Department of Teacher Education is pleased to offer an opportunity for public school Pre-K teachers to obtain initial licensure in Early Childhood Pre-K through an alternative preparation program.

DETAILS ABOUT THE PROGRAM:

- Applicants must have a bachelor's degree or higher.
- Applicants must have at least 18 hours of approved Early Childhood Education coursework.
- Applicants must be eligible for admission to A-State Graduate School (required GPA).
- Applicants must have a passing score on the [Praxis® Education of Young Children {5533}](#) before the start of the Summer Session of the Academy. **Test must be taken by March 28, 2026.**
- Applicants must be employed full-time and working in an *approved classroom* setting serving three, four and five-year-olds in Arkansas.
- Programs must provide a signed participation/partnership agreement from the district or program and provide an appropriate Experienced Mentor Teacher.
- Approved settings include programs with a Level 3 or higher Better Beginnings Rating and are
 - Pre-kindergarten in a public school
 - Pre-kindergarten in an Education Service Cooperative
 - Funded ABC program
- T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® scholarships may be available for those who meet the requirements. Contact teach@arkansasearlychildhood.org. Visit their website at <https://arkansasearlychildhood.org/teach/academyendorsement/> (apply as early as possible)
- **Classes begin June 29; must be admitted to A-State by June 10 with passing Praxis scores received and submitted in the application link by June 10, 2026.**
- Students will receive 12 hours of approved graduate coursework - 6 hours from June 29 -July 31; 3 hours each for internship in Fall 2026 and Spring 2027. Courses are offered online. Program completion includes a Graduate Certificate and readiness for initial licensure application.

COMPLETE THE SURVEY AT

**THIS LINK
for contact information
about the program.**

https://astate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cAzr1d

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

- Dr. Joanna Grymes
grymesj@AState.edu
ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY
(870) 680-8430



Links to Follow:

- [Survey Link - For Contact Information about Program](#)
 - [Praxis Education of Young Children \(5533\)](#)
 - [T.E.A.C.H - Early Childhood Scholarships](#)
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