



# Pathway to B.S. in Early Childhood Education for **MCPS Para Educators**

## Work, learn, succeed: a flexible three-year degree that fits your life.

Are you a paraeducator or support staff Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) with an associate degree in early childhood education? Advance your career without pausing it. Our new TU Tiger Teachers Pathway program provides a flexible route to earn your bachelor's degree and prepare for licensure so you can grow your skills, open new doors and make a lasting impact.

Interested? Take the next steps! Collect your unofficial transcripts from the colleges and universities you attended and send them to Dr. Amy (McDowell) DiCenso, Program Coordinator, at [amcdowell@towson.edu](mailto:amcdowell@towson.edu).

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- No application fee
- Earn credit for prior learning and experience
- Part-time schedule tailored for full-time working professionals
- Hybrid learning: online and in-person courses
- Courses taught by TU faculty with school experience (many in MCPS)
- Stay in your current job while advancing your degree
- Complete your internships within your current MCPS location
- Tuition benefits for MCPS employees
- Graduate in three years with a TU bachelor's degree and eligibility for a Maryland State Teaching Certification



# TU Early Childhood Education Major

## Why Earn a Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education (ECE)?

The role of educators is changing with a critical need for teachers who can support and advocate for the cognitive, behavioral, social, emotional, linguistic and cultural needs of all children in the classroom. Our specially designed program prepares you for certification as an early childhood classroom teacher (birth – 3rd) through innovative approaches and hands-on experiences.

- Innovative and dynamic course work that helps you develop successful instruction and classroom management strategies
- Experienced faculty-mentors committed to your success.
- A supportive community within a cohort of your peers students.
- Collaborative partnerships with families, communities and agencies.

## Why Towson University?

- Our nearly 160 years of proven educational leadership is the foundation for an ever-expanding reputation earned through results.
- Our programs are accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) and the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE).
- TU's strong alumni community cultivates career-long mentoring and professional development opportunities.
- We incorporate emerging technologies and test new instructional methods in coursework and internships to enhance educational practice and knowledge.
- You'll interact with a diverse population of students and families through service-learning activities.



Stay close to home and work while earning your degree. In-person classes are held at The Universities at Shady Grove (USG) in Rockville. USG unites nearly 80 degree programs from nine Maryland public universities on one convenient campus in Montgomery County.

## Application Process

1. Collect your unofficial transcripts from and email them to Dr. Amy (McDowell) DiCenso at [amcdowell@towson.edu](mailto:amcdowell@towson.edu) for an initial evaluation
2. Once approved you will receive specific application instructions (application fee will be waived).
3. For your formal application you will need:
  - a. Two professional references
  - b. A current resume or C/V
  - c. To email official transcripts to [admissions\\_documents@towson.edu](mailto:admissions_documents@towson.edu)

## Pre-Requisite Courses

Scan the QR code to view a check list of pre-requisite courses. Courses in red are examples of equivalent courses at Montgomery College. Other course equivalencies, exemptions and exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis during the transcript evaluation process.



### Early Childhood Education

Towson University at The Universities of Shady Grove, 9636 Gudelsky Drive, Rockville, MD 20850 · [amcdowell@towson.edu](mailto:amcdowell@towson.edu)

[shadygrove.umd.edu/universities/towson-university](https://shadygrove.umd.edu/universities/towson-university)



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