Graduate Degrees and Certificates
CEHD offers one doctoral degree, as well as master’s degrees and graduate certificates.

Requirements & Policies

Policies
In addition to the policies stated in Academic Policies, the following policies and procedures apply to all students in the college.

Communication Policy
All correspondence from the program, school, college, and university administration is sent to the student’s official Mason e-mail account. Students must use their Mason e-mail account to communicate with their programs and other administrative units.

CEHD Academic Policies
Students are ultimately responsible for their academic progress towards their degrees and/or certificates. They are strongly advised to consult Academic Policies for information concerning university-wide requirements for degree and nondegree students in addition to those for this college. Students with questions regarding academic policies and college-level requirements should contact the CEHD Student and Academic Affairs Office (Thompson Hall, Suite 2300; 703-993-2080; cehdsaa@gmu.edu). Additional policy information and forms are available online. (http://cehd.gmu.edu/saa)

CEHD Grading Policy
All CEHD undergraduate and graduate students are held to the university grading policies as described in AP.3 Grading. Those students enrolled in a CEHD licensure program have higher minimum grade requirements which are detailed in each specific program’s page.

Grade Appeals
Students may appeal grades that they believe were assigned unjustly or were based on unclear criteria in accord with Academic Policies. Grade appeals should initially be directed to the Academic Program Coordinator for courses taken within the College of Education and Human Development. If the student is not satisfied with the outcome of the appeal at the program level, it may be submitted to the Office of Student and Academic Affairs for review. The Associate Dean’s decision is considered final and not subject to further appeal.

Study Elsewhere
Once enrolled in degree status at Mason, undergraduate students with fewer than 60 hours of transfer coursework (not including registration through the Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area or coursework completed through the Center for Global Education) may take up to twelve credits of coursework in CEHD disciplines at another institution. Students with 60 or more hours of transfer coursework are not permitted to take additional coursework in CEHD disciplines at another institution. A student may seek permission for additional hours beyond these limits for summer registration if his/her permanent residence is more than fifty miles from the Fairfax campus. Students who enroll elsewhere without advance written permission will not receive transfer credit for the coursework taken at another institution unless they re-apply for admission to Mason as transfer applicants and
meet all priority deadlines. Re-admission is not guaranteed and transfer credit is awarded based upon course equivalencies in effect at the time of re-admission. Courses previously attempted at Mason (including withdrawals) cannot be taken elsewhere.

**Professional Teacher Licensure**

CEHD is responsible for professional courses, special standards, and licensure recommendations for students completing state-approved (Virginia) licensure programs that prepare teachers, administrators, counselors, and related-instructional personnel.

Initial teacher licensure is available at the undergraduate level in secondary education: biology, chemistry, earth science, health and physical education, mathematics, physics, English, and music. Initial teacher licensure is available at the graduate level in art, early childhood, elementary, English as a second language, foreign language, secondary, and theatre arts. The Special Education Program offers initial teacher licensure exclusively through graduate certificates that include Early Childhood Special Education, Visual Impairments, General Curriculum, and Adapted Curriculum.

For more information please contact the CEHD Office of Admissions (Thompson Hall, Suite 2200; 703-993-2892; cehdgrad@gmu.edu). Additional information is available online (http://cehd.gmu.edu/admissions).

**Notes on Background Checks and Licensure:**

The majority of Mason CEHD programs require multiple field experiences. Our school and agency partners require Mason students to be fingerprinted and pass a criminal background check prior to field experience work. Students must assume the risk that classes may be deferred and their program delayed due to the individual severity of notations on such a check and review by individual agencies.

George Mason University will verify completion of the requirements of a Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) state-approved preparation program at the graduate or undergraduate level. Such verification does not guarantee the issuance of Virginia Collegiate Professional, Postgraduate Professional, or Pupil Personnel license from the Commonwealth of Virginia. It is solely the student’s responsibility to comply with all requirements for licensure by the Commonwealth. Under Virginia law, a social security number is required for licensure.

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**Academic Units**

- Graduate School of Education
- School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism