Students admitted to other degree programs within the College of Education and Human Development, who desire to teach in elementary or secondary schools, are also enrolled in the courses provided by EECE. Students gain advanced knowledge in learning theories, educational standards, goals and objectives, cultural influences concerning learning, curriculum design, and implementation.

**DEPARTMENTAL PROGRAMS**

Programs are based on the principles of the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC); the standards and professional accreditation recommendations of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education/Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (NCATE/CAEP); the Southern Association for Colleges and Schools (SACS); the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC); the Association of Childhood Education (ACEI); and the International Reading Association (IRA).

Undergraduate Programs
- Bachelor of Science, Child Care & Family Education
  - Traditional and Online (Non-Licensure Track)
- Bachelor of Science, Elementary Education, K-3
- Bachelor of Science, Elementary Education, K-6

Graduate Programs
- Master of Science in Early Childhood Education
  - Traditional and Online
- Master of Science, Elementary Education
- Master of Science, Reading Education
  - Hybrid and Online
- Specialist Degree in Education, Elementary Education
- Doctorate of Education, Early Childhood Education

**MISSION**

The overall mission of the Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education (EECE) is to prepare responsive and effective educators for working with learners of all ages, infancy through adulthood. With its major emphasis in teacher certification programs for individuals seeking to teach in public school settings. Additional responsibilities include preparing personnel to teach in private kindergarten centers, day care centers and education programs operated by community agencies, businesses and industries.

Training focuses upon research and theoretical curriculum studies as well as the appropriate instructional methodologies for each population and community setting. The major objectives for the program are to produce educators who:

- Are responsive in the field of Elementary and Early Childhood Education, who meet certification requirements at the A Licensure Level;
- View the profession of education as most influential in the advancement of mankind;
- Have as a primary goal to help children and youth develop into citizens who will enhance humanity.

**OVERVIEW**

The Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education prepares educators to work with learners of all ages, backgrounds, abilities, and cultures. EECE is recognized for its excellence in teaching, research, and service. Many graduates are teachers, consultants, principals, college professors, and state department employees. The department has one of the highest enrollments at Jackson State University, which is attributed to its active community involvement, personal approach to instruction, and advising.