## EDUCATION

### What can I do with this degree?

#### AREAS

**K-12**
- **Teaching**
  - Pre-school
  - Elementary
  - Middle
  - Secondary

- **Administration**
  - Principalship
  - Superintendency

- **Special Services**
  - Guidance Counseling
  - School Psychology
  - School Social Work
  - Occupational and Physical Therapy
  - Audiology and Speech Pathology
  - Library/Information Services
  - Special Education
  - Curriculum Supervision
  - Subject Area Supervision

**Higher Education**
- Teaching
- Research
- Administration
- Student Affairs
- Information/Library Services

### EMPLOYERS

**K-12**
- Elementary, middle and secondary schools: public, private, Montessori, etc.
- Day care centers and nursery schools
- Boards of Education

**Higher Education**
- Four-year colleges and universities
- Two-year and community colleges
- Technical schools
- Medical and professional schools

### STRATEGIES

**K-12**
- Complete a college level teacher preparation program.
- Obtain teaching certificate/license for desired subject area and/or grade level. Requirements for certification/licensure vary by state.
- Obtain dual certification for better employability.
- Private schools may not require certification or licensure. Obtain master's degree in subject area for increased employability.
- Get involved in student teacher organizations.
- Acquire teaching experience. Obtain Ph.D. and certificate in school administration.

**Higher Education**
- Earn Ph.D. to teach and research at four-year institutions. Master's or Ph.D. degree is required to teach at two-year schools.
- Earn a Ph.D. in higher education administration for upper level positions in university administration.
- Earn master's in student personnel, student development, or counseling for student affairs positions.
- Obtain master's in library/information sciences.
- Gain related experience through student positions such as Resident Assistants, Orientation Leaders, etc.
- Seek leadership roles in campus organizations.
## AREAS

### ADULT AND CONTINUING EDUCATION
- Inservice Education
- Staff Development
- Professional Development
- Leisure-oriented Education
- GED Preparation
- Literacy Development
- English as a Second Language

### EMPLOYERS
- K-12 school systems
- Boards of Education
- Colleges and universities
- Two-year and technical schools
- Community organizations: YMCA, Red Cross, etc.
- Correctional institutions
- Hospitals
- Museums
- Professional associations
- Nursing homes/Adult day care
- Vocational services

### STRATEGIES
- Attain a master's or Ph.D. degree in adult education or a graduate degree in a subject or specialized area.
- Gain a reputation of expertise and experience in a subject, profession, art, craft or trade.
- Obtain teaching or instructional experience.
- May need certification or accreditation.

## BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY

### AREAS
- Training and Development
- Human Resources
- Sales
- Customer Service
- Publishing and Technical Writing
- Consulting

### EMPLOYERS
- Public and private corporations
- Consulting firms
- Marketing companies
- Bookstores
- Publishers:
  - Textbook, newspaper, magazine, book
- Test-preparation companies
- Software companies
- Staffing agencies

### STRATEGIES
- Take some general business and computer courses.
- Earn a graduate degree in human resource development.
- Gain experience in organizational development or marketing.
- Become current with business and industry literature and news.
- Learn desktop publishing and other software packages.

## GOVERNMENT

### AREAS
- Administration
- Planning
- Evaluation
- Management
- Research and Writing
- Teaching
- Social Work

### EMPLOYERS
- Federal government agencies:
  - Department of Education
  - Department of Defense
    - Overseas schools for military dependents
  - Department of Labor
  - Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC)
  - Health and Human Services
  - Library of Congress
  - National Archives
  - National Science Foundation
  - National Endowment for the Arts
  - National Endowment for the Humanities
  - Peace Corps
  - Social service agencies
  - Vista
  - State and local government

### STRATEGIES
- Learn federal, state, and local job application procedures.
- Gain experience and an advanced, typically Ph.D., degree for top positions in government.
### AREAS

**NONPROFIT**
- Teaching or Training
- Programming
- Public Relations
- Administration
- Fundraising

**EMPLOYERS**
- Adoption agencies
- Scouts
- Camps
- United Way agencies
- YMCA/YWCA
- Group homes
- Mental health clinics
- Community recreation centers
- Other public or private social service organizations

**STRATEGIES**
- Gain experience through volunteer work or internships.
- Develop writing and public speaking skills.
- Learn to work with people of different ages and backgrounds.
- Add additional coursework in area of interest such as human services, counseling or psychology.
- Consider certification in special education for greater employability.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

- Develop excellent communication skills, verbal and written.
- Develop good computer skills.
- Demonstrate enthusiasm and energy for the field.
- Need desire to work with and help people.

- Gain part-time, summer, internship, or volunteer experience with the age group you intend to work with in various settings: pre-schools, daycares, camps, community agencies, adult centers, YMCA’s, etc.

- Participate in co-curricular activities and related organizations to broaden skills and interests.

- Decide on level of teaching and specific area of interest.

- Bachelor’s degree is sufficient for certification/licensure to teach K-12 in most states. Obtain a master’s degree for advancement and increased earning potential. Advanced degree required for specialists, education administration, college teaching and other professional positions.

- For career options outside of education, identify transferable skills learned in teaching that are applicable to alternative careers: effective communication both verbal and written, teaching and instruction, program planning, organization and record-keeping, working under pressure and meeting deadlines, motivational skills, creativity, working autonomously, decision-making, problem solving, and research skills.

Prepared by the Career Planning staff of Career Services at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville. (1996, Revised 2002)

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