

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES FOR EDUCATION MAJORS

If there is one question that career counselors and faculty advisors are asked more often than all others by students seeking assistance with career planning, it is this: *“What can I do with this major?”* An undergraduate student in the liberal arts and sciences is actually developing a broad array of skills that might be applied to any number of careers, rather than developing an in-depth expertise in just one area. Therefore, a better question to pose might be: *“What skills am I developing in my major, and how might I explore careers that would require these skills?”*

Study in the field of Education offers a chance to develop skills that will enable one to have an impact on the social, personal, and intellectual development of individuals. One will also enhance their skills in communication and organization that are essential in most careers. A major in Education prepares a student for careers in elementary, middle, and high schools, colleges and universities, libraries, as well as youth organizations, and camps. There are additional minors to compliment and define your area of speciality such as; Early Childhood Education, Math, Art, and Communicative Disorders, to name a few.

SKILLS/ABILITIES

- ❖ Desire to work with children
- ❖ Communicate with children and parents
- ❖ Serve as a role model
- ❖ Adapt quickly to new situations
- ❖ Imagination and creativity
- ❖ Effectively plan activities
- ❖ Team player with other teachers and staff
- ❖ Patience and listening skills
- ❖ Motivate and encourage students
- ❖ Attention-grabber
- ❖ Possess a high energy level
- ❖ Critical thinking
- ❖ Research techniques
- ❖ Have a sense of humor
- ❖ Coordinating and training
- ❖ Organized
- ❖ Decision-maker and problem solver
- ❖ Assessing areas that need improvement
- ❖ Advising and counseling
- ❖ Able to manage groups of children
- ❖ Evaluating and supervising
- ❖ Initiating and persuading
- ❖ Ability to speak to groups of people
- ❖ Leading and managing
- ❖ Disciplinarian
- ❖ Understanding children
- ❖ Coaching
- ❖ Reporting results
- ❖ Public speaking



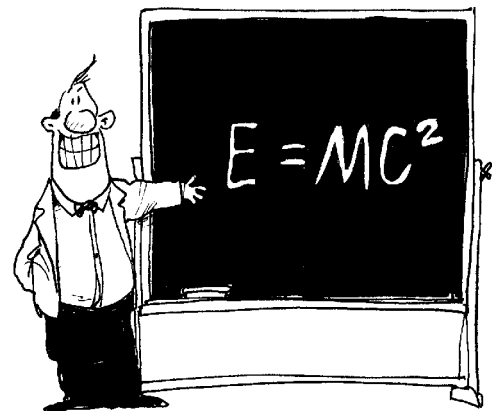
We Build Success

Career Services ★ UW-River Falls ★ 24 East Hathorn ★ 715-425-3572

OCCUPATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

The occupations in this list are only a sampling. Education majors become doctors, diplomats, and social workers as well as teachers, coaches and librarians.

- ❖ Adult Education Teacher
- ❖ Alumni Relations Coordinator
- ❖ Athletic Coach
- ❖ Athletic Director
- ❖ Child Life Specialist
- ❖ Curriculum Specialist
- ❖ Day Care Administrator
- ❖ Education Management Specialist
- ❖ Educational Materials Sales Representative
- ❖ Education and Training Administrator
- ❖ Educational Administrator
- ❖ Educational Researcher
- ❖ Educational Resource Coordinator
- ❖ Educational Therapist
- ❖ Elementary School Teacher
- ❖ Employee Training Instructor
- ❖ Financial Aid Counselor
- ❖ Grant Writer
- ❖ Guidance Counselor
- ❖ Historic Site Administrator
- ❖ University/College Instructor
- ❖ Kindergarten Teacher
- ❖ Librarian
- ❖ Library Consultant
- ❖ Media Center Specialist
- ❖ Missionary Worker
- ❖ Physical Education Instructor
- ❖ Preschool Administrator
- ❖ Registrar/Admissions Director
- ❖ Religious Institution Education Coordinator
- ❖ Resource Teacher
- ❖ School Psychologist
- ❖ Secondary School Teacher
- ❖ Social Services Volunteer (Vista/Americorps)
- ❖ Speech Pathologist
- ❖ Special Education Administrator
- ❖ Student Admissions Administrator
- ❖ Student Affairs Administrator
- ❖ Student Personnel Administrator
- ❖ Teacher, Adventure/ Outdoor Education
- ❖ Teacher, Handicapped Students
- ❖ Training Specialist
- ❖ Tutor
- ❖ Vocational/Rehabilitation Counselor



We Build Success

Career Services ★ UW-River Falls ★ 24 East Hathorn ★ 715-425-3572

RESEARCHING YOUR CAREER IDEAS

How do you find out what's out there?

Researching careers is a time-consuming, but necessary process. Waiting until graduation to start thinking about your career plans is as absurd as studying after you've taken your final exams.

1. Written and On-line Resources

- ❖ Visit Career & Counseling Services' Career Resource Center
(located on the Ground Floor of East Hathorn Hall)
- ❖ Browse the Internet, such as Career & Counseling Services' Web Page (www.uwrf.edu/ccs)
- ❖ Visit the Chalmer Davee Library

2. People Resources

- ❖ Talk with Faculty and Alumni
- ❖ Use Career & Counseling Services' "Career Information Network"
- ❖ Join Professional Organizations
- ❖ Conduct Occupational Interviews
- ❖ Consult Employer Directories and the Yellow Pages



3. Obtain Direct Experience

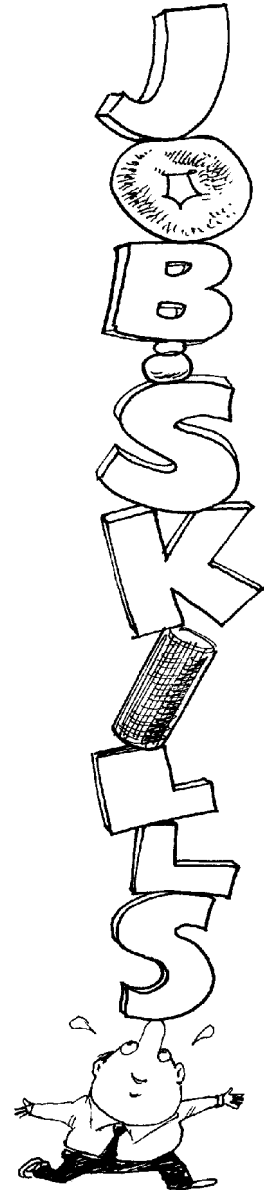
- ❖ Job Shadowing
- ❖ Volunteer or part-time work
- ❖ Internships are *essential!* Talk with your departmental faculty coordinator for internship information.

We Build Success

Career Services ★ UW-River Falls ★ 24 East Hathorn ★ 715-425-3572

Suggestions to Enhance Your Skills

- ❖ Obtain dual certification for better employability
- ❖ Obtain master's degree to enhance employability
- ❖ Volunteer/work at the child care center on campus or the Have-A-Heart Farm
- ❖ Learn federal, state, and local job application procedures
- ❖ Gain experience in a variety of settings such as pre-schools, day care centers, camps, community agencies, 4-H, and adult learning centers
- ❖ Become computer literate and develop a web portfolio
- ❖ Develop excellent communication skills, verbal and written and illustrate them in a portfolio
- ❖ Become a tutor on campus or at local schools
- ❖ Minor in a foreign language and/or student teach overseas
- ❖ Become certified to coach
- ❖ Volunteer at a local school to assist with extracurricular activities
- ❖ Be a counselor at UWRF College Camp or work as a resident assistant
- ❖ Volunteer with students of color and disabled students
- ❖ Work in the Educational Technology Center
- ❖ Become a Career Peer Advisor at Career Services
- ❖ Join campus organizations and clubs relating to education and your specialization (ie. Tomorrow's Educators, Early Childhood Klub, etc.)



We Build Success

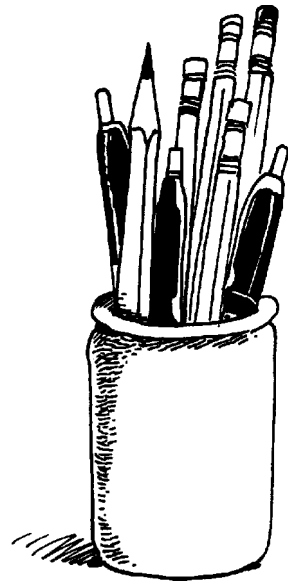
Career Services ★ UW-River Falls ★ 24 East Hathorn ★ 715-425-3572

CAREER RESOURCES FOR EDUCATION MAJORS

Career & Counseling Services' Career Resource Center (Ground Floor, East Hathorn Hall)

Career & Counseling Services' Career Resource Center is open every day from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM; and until 7:00 PM Thursday evenings. The following books in our Resource Center may be of particular interest to students majoring in education:

- ❖ The Educator's Guide to Alternative Jobs & Careers
- ❖ Alternative Careers For Teachers
- ❖ Inside Secrets of Finding a Teaching Job
- ❖ Education Portfolio Examples: Secondary, Elementary
- ❖ Education Resume Example Binder
- ❖ Careers for Kids At Heart & Others Who Adore Children
- ❖ 1997, 1998 Job Search Handbook for Educators
- ❖ Directory of Public School Systems in the United States
- ❖ Education and Community Service Directory 1997
- ❖ Manual on Certification and Preparation of Educational Personnel in the United States
- ❖ U.S. Department of State-Overseas American Sponsored Schools
- ❖ Overseas Opportunities Binders (4)
- ❖ Teacher Supply and Demand Binder
- ❖ Employment Strategies for Prospective Teachers Binder
- ❖ Liberal Arts Jobs
- ❖ Short Term Job Adventures
- ❖ Helpful Organizations for the Arts in Minnesota
- ❖ Career Smarts: Jobs with a Future
- ❖ Job Smarts Top 50 Careers
- ❖ Patterson's Elementary Education 1994
- ❖ Handbook of Private Schools
- ❖ WI, SD Salary Data Binder
- ❖ First Call for Help (West & East Metro)
- ❖ Occupations Handbook
- ❖ Minnesota Children 1995-96
- ❖ 101 Grade A Resumes for Teachers
- ❖ MN & WI Original Listings A-Z
- ❖ Wisconsin School Directory
- ❖ The GOLD Book



Videos:

- ☆ Interview Strategies for Elementary and Middle School Teachers
- ☆ Developing a Teacher Interview Portfolio
- ☆ Interview Strategies for Secondary Teachers

We Build Success

Career Services ★ UW-River Falls ★ 24 East Hathorn ★ 715-425-3572