UMBC Department of Education
Early Childhood Education Personnel Preparation Program
Procedures to be followed by Graduate Applicants

1) DEPARTMENTAL REQUIREMENTS: All graduate education students are required to have an overall 3.0 GPA in order to enter and remain in good standing in the program. See Graduate School application and related materials at www.umbc.edu/gradschool/.

2) INTERVIEW SESSION: Prior to acceptance into the program, all applicants must be interviewed by an Early Childhood faculty member (or designee) who will explain all aspects of the program and answer questions. The interview will proceed more efficiently if you bring an unofficial copy of your transcript(s) and any other pertinent materials.

3) PRAXIS I TEST: As you are applying, arrange to take the PRAXIS I test required of all Maryland teacher candidates. You must attain a composite score of 527 or above to be fully admitted to the Early Childhood Program. See the Educational Testing Services (ETS) website: www.ets.org/praxis. Booklets are available in the Education Department. If, however, you present GRE verbal and quantitative scores totaling 1000 these will substitute for PRAXIS I.

4) DEPARTMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM: The Department of Education assessment system is the Education Accountability System (EAS). It is implemented through a software program called Tk20 which requires each candidate to have an account with Tk20. This costs $103. Set up your account at https://umbc.tk20.com.

5) TUBERCULOSIS TEST: You must have a yearly test to determine that you are free of tuberculosis in order to work with children in a classroom setting. This test can be administered at Student Health Services, your own physician’s office, or a county health department. If you have had a recent TB test, you can provide us with a copy of the results.

6) ACCEPTANCE: Acceptance into the program will be based on the results of the interview as well as the receipt of the following materials: 1) a completed ECE application (form attached), 2) an unofficial transcript, 3) a letter of recommendation written by someone who has knowledge of your experiences with young children. This can be one of your three letters for the Graduate School. 4) a completed Graduate School application.

7) NOTIFICATION OF ADMISSION TO THE EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM: A letter of acceptance will be sent by the Graduate School after all requirements have been submitted.

If you have any questions regarding the program or would like to schedule an interview contact: Pat Scully at 410-455-2307 or pscull1@umbc.edu or Mary Rivkin at 410-455-2259 or rivkin@umbc.edu. Please return the application and supporting documents to:

    Dr. Pat Scully/ Dr. Mary Rivkin
    Coordinators, Early Childhood Education
    Department of Education
    UMBC
    1000 Hilltop Circle
    Baltimore, MD 21250
Present Date: __________
Name: _________________________________
Address: (Permanent): ________________________________

(Temporary): ________________________________

Telephone: (Home): ___________________ (Cell): ___________________
Email: ___________________________________
Status at end of last semester: ________________________________
Undergraduate Major: ____________________________

1. How did you hear about the Early Childhood Program?

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2. Why are you interested in being in the Early Childhood Program?

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3. At this time, what are your long-range goals?

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4. Describe your experience working with children. What ages were the children? What were your responsibilities? How long was each experience?

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5. What courses have you had that you feel will be helpful towards Early Childhood preparation?

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6. Describe your experience with cultures or subcultures that are different from your own. Reflect on the meaning of this experience for your becoming a teacher of young children.

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7. Please add any other comments related to your personal qualifications and why an Early Childhood Personnel Preparation is appropriate for you. A copy of your transcript should accompany this application.

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