

Purple Pathway for Paraeducators

Are you a paraeducator or do you have staff who aspire to be licensed elementary teachers? The University of Northern Iowa is proud to offer an accelerated online, practice-based program for paraprofessionals interested in furthering their education to earn a **bachelor's degree in Elementary Education**.



Currently collecting interest

FEATURES

- / A flexible option for placebound, paraeducators currently working in schools
- / Complete coursework in two years; apply for licensure after student teaching
- / Exemplary support provided throughout the journey including the enrollment process, academic advising, technical support, and more
- / Build a lifelong network by studying with the same group of adult learners throughout the program
- / Earn Iowa endorsements in Elementary K-6 and Strategist I
- / Utilize support from a trained mentor at your worksite
- / Coursework and assignments are application/practice-based, drawing on your daily experiences and roles in schools

QUALIFICATIONS

- / Must be an employed paraeducator in a K-6 building
- / Must have support from building/district administrator and mentor teacher(s)
- / Must have an Associate of Arts degree, Associate of Science degree, or higher
- / Must be able to commit to the synchronous online meetings

LEARN MORE

Visit online.uni.edu/paraeducators to complete an online interest form and to receive additional information. Applications are accepted every Fall term.

TOP
10

UNI ranks in Forbes Advisor's **Top 10 Best Online Teaching Degrees of 2023**



online.uni.edu/paraeducators

UNI

University of Northern Iowa

Purple Pathway for Paraeducators Elementary Education BA

online.uni.edu/paraeducators

Sample Course Sequence

80 total units of credit | units in parentheses following course titles

TERM 1

Schooling and Inclusive Education in the 21st Century (8)
Child Development through Integrated Arts and Early Literacy (8)

TERM 2

Learning and Reasoning (8)
Managing Inclusive Classroom Environments and Learning Assessment (8)

TERM 3

Integrated Sciences, Math Reasoning, and Teaching Science (16)

TERM 4

Literacy/Math Differentiation, and Intensive Methods (8)
Intensive Methods Math/Social Studies (8)

TERM 5

Student Teaching and Transition Planning (8)
Student Teaching and Fitness/Wellness for Learning (8)

Program Delivery

Courses are offered entirely online using Zoom video conferencing and Blackboard, a learning management system. Classes will meet online a set day each week for three hours. There will be one 6-hour Saturday meeting per month. Coursework and assignments are application and practice-based, allowing you to draw on your daily experiences and roles within your current school.

Affordability

UNI strives to make undergraduate education an affordable investment.

Financial aid

Financial aid may be available for students who qualify, based on number of units per semester and financial need. Questions may be directed to the UNI Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships.

319-273-2700 | fin-aid@uni.edu

Tuition & Fees for 2023-24*	
Undergraduate credit	\$350
Technology fee (per course)	\$42
Records & documents fee (Covers all transcripts and other fees. Charged at graduation)	\$115

*Tuition and fees may be adjusted by the Iowa Board of Regents.

Future Ready Scholarship

Students enrolled in an online degree completion program may be eligible to receive up to \$2,400 each term.

Learn more at

iacc.uni.edu/future-ready-scholarships



After spending a few years working in education I have really grown to enjoy it and I'm thrilled at the idea of teaching my own classroom. Having the opportunity to return to UNI and pursue a teaching degree/ license has been wonderful. Being able to be a part of this program has opened doors for me I didn't know were there. I'm able to go to work, attend classes, and be there for my kids. I know that I'm going to be able to complete the program without feeling like I've missed out on anything. It's a really great feeling."



Melinda Hutchins

Current Purple Pathway for Paraeducators student

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US.

Kris Donnelly, Program Coordinator
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Mike Tate, Academic Advisor | COE Academic Advising & Teacher Education Success
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University of Northern Iowa
Online & Distance Education