



FORDHAM UNIVERSITY

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) Scholarship Program: ECO Project **Division of Curriculum & Instruction**

Enhancing Child Outcomes of Young Children with High-Intensity Needs through Interdisciplinary Preparation of Early Childhood Special Education and School Psychologists (ECO)

What is the ECO Project?

ECO is a federally funded scholarship program that will provide scholars with an evidence-based approach and the implementation of an ongoing interdisciplinary mentoring program. Through carefully sequenced coursework, mentoring, practicum, and portfolio development, scholars will become skilled in providing high-quality early childhood environments and individualized intensive interventions to address academic and behavioral challenges of young children. Those who complete the program will learn about identifying and preventing early learning and socio-emotional difficulties of young children with high-intensity needs, providing culturally responsive assessments and individualized intensive interventions, and developing leadership skills and collaborative consultation with other professionals and family members.

What are the Requirements to Apply for the ECO Project?

Applicants must: 1) be certified in either early childhood education (birth to grade 2) or in childhood education (Grades 1 to 6); and 2) have earned an undergraduate or graduate degree with a GPA of 3.0 or higher (out of 4.0).

What are the benefits of participating in the ECO Project?

- Candidates will be prepared for New York State certification in early childhood special education through a 30-credit Master degree program in Early Childhood Special Education.
- Candidates selected will be trained to address challenging behavior, learn response to intervention techniques, develop collaboration and leadership skills, and become trainers/leaders in promoting school readiness skills of high intensity needs young children with disabilities.
- Candidates will receive a scholarship that covers more than 60% of the cost of the tuition.
- Courses will be offered part-time in the evenings at the Fordham Lincoln Center Campus during fall, spring, and summer so that full-time teachers can finish this program in 2 years.

What is the application process for the ECO Project?

- Apply Today by going to <https://gradadmissions.fordham.edu/apply>
- On the application please select 2023 Fall, Masters Degree, and M.S.E. in Early Childhood Special Education at Lincoln Center. Then you will need to select Yes to the corresponding ECO consideration question.
- A complete application includes: the application form; official transcripts; two recommendation letters (one letter from your principal or educational supervisor); a copy of your teacher certification; a resume; a personal statement; and a \$70 application fee.
- Questions about the online application can be directed to the Admissions Office, 212-636-6400. Finalists will be invited for an on-campus interview.

Who Should I Contact for More Information about the ECO Project?

Please contact Project Coordinator Chun Zhang at czhang@fordham.edu if you have additional questions about **ECO Project** scholarship program and the application process.