WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MAJOR IN ...  ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

OCCUPATIONAL OVERVIEW:
According to ONET online: Elementary School Teachers “teach students basic academic, social and other formative skills in public or private schools at the elementary level” (http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/25-2021.00)

EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS:
All states require teachers to be licensed. Licensure granted by the State Board of Education for that state. See desired requirements for each state. Consult O*Net for more information on the specific KSAs (Knowledge, Skill, Ability) that are needed for elementary education careers. A few general work activities that many teachers do on a daily basis, include, but are not limited to the following:
- Classroom Management
- Communication skills (verbal and nonverbal)
- Creativity and Design
- Curriculum Management
- Decision-Making Abilities
- Knowledge of educational theory and techniques
- Performance and Evaluation Management
- Problem Solving
- Report writing and gather information
- Strategic Planning
- Teaching and Instruction Methodology
- Training

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO:
The UNM Elementary Education program offers undergraduate and graduate degree programs through the Department of Teacher Education.

INDUSTRIES & TARGET EMPLOYERS:
A variety of employers specifically recruit UNM students and alumni. Consult UNM’s Lobo Career Connection for a complete list of employers and current job postings. Speak with a Career Development Facilitator at the UNM Office of Career Services for help with identifying employers or additional resources for your occupation of choice.

Business:
HR, Corporations, Marketing, Test-taking companies, publishers, sales, customer service organizations, not for profit organization, Training and Development, consultation, etc.

Childcare:
Independently owned businesses, corporate childcare services, military childcare, religious organizations, daycare centers, etc.

Community Services:
Not for profit, YMCA, YWCA, Camp programs, Residential Treatment Facilities, Rehabilitation programs, workforce programs, specialty group programs, adoption agencies, etc.

Continuing/Certificate Programs:
GED programs, Adult Education, Continuing Education programs, Board of Education, community colleges, professional associations, specialty populations (Prison or Correctional systems, Veteran’s Reintegration programs, K-12 after school programs, etc.)

Education (K-12, Colleges, Universities)
Government:
Research, Federal, state or city government, teaching, evaluation

Social Services:
Counseling, residential treatment facilities, youth services, senior services, Welfare and Health Departments, case management

TARGET COMPANIES AND JOB POSTINGS:
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SUGGESTED STRATEGIES
• Consider specializing with a double major, minor, or concentration in another area.
• Gain related professional experience through involvement in internships, student employment, Co-ops, and/or volunteer opportunities.
• Shadow professionals in the field to gain a better understanding of the occupation and to build relationships with professional mentors.
• Build your network and get involved on campus through student organizations and campus events. Find organizations and events at the Student Activities Center website.
• Attend career related campus events such as career fairs, company information sessions, and or career workshops.
• Students who are interested in graduate school should maintain a high undergraduate GPA and develop relationships with faculty and community leaders.
• Speak with mentors and faculty about career opportunities.
• Job leads can be found on your department’s website, list-serv, newsletters, and social media sites.

STATE AND NATIONAL WAGES:
Adapted from CareerOneStop (2013)

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<th>Location</th>
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*Data obtained from Career One Stop

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:
National Education Association [http://www.nea.org/index.html](http://www.nea.org/index.html)
National Center of Alternative Certification [http://www.teach-now.org/](http://www.teach-now.org/)
UNM College of Education [http://coe.unm.edu/](http://coe.unm.edu/)
New Mexico Department of Education [http://www.ped.state.nm.us/](http://www.ped.state.nm.us/)

[http://online.onetcenter.org](http://online.onetcenter.org)
[www.bls.gov/oco/](www.bls.gov/oco/)