WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MAJOR IN … SECONDARY EDUCATION

OCCUPATIONAL OVERVIEW:
Middle school teachers and high school (or secondary) school teachers help students explore more in depth the subjects introduced in elementary school. Middle and secondary school teachers specialize in specific subject areas, such as English, Spanish, Chemistry, Mathematics, or History.

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.

GENERAL WORK ACTIVITIES:
- Analyzing Details
- Classroom Management
- Communication (verbal and nonverbal) skills
- 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 Secondary 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, Department of Defense School system

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

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/)