

Early Childhood/Elementary Education + Special Education Resource Guide

Fall 2025 Semester

Overview

This guide serves as an overview of support services for Early Childhood/Elementary Education & Special Education majors at TUNE for the Fall 2025 semester.

Part 1: Key Academic Contacts

Toni Guidi, Early Childhood, Elementary Education/Special Education TUNE Program Coordinator

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410-704-8016

Part 2: Education Majors at TUNE

[ECSE Major Overview at TUNE](#)

[ESEE Major Overview at TUNE](#)

[Academic Resources at TUNE](#)

Part 3: Tips for Success in This Major

- **Master the foundations of teaching and learning.** Build a strong grasp of pedagogy, child/adolescent development, and educational psychology. These core concepts guide every decision you'll make in the classroom.
- **Develop strong communication and classroom management skills.** Clear, respectful communication and effective management strategies are key to creating a positive, productive learning environment.
- **Take every practicum and field experience seriously.** Use student teaching and observation placements to apply theory, get feedback, and build real confidence in your teaching style.
- **Stay organized and reflect often.** Teaching requires careful planning and constant reflection. Use a planner, keep lesson plans, and regularly assess what's working and what's not.
- **Engage with education trends and policies.** Follow current issues in education like inclusive practices, tech integration, and equity. Stay informed to become an adaptable educator.
- **Build relationships and seek mentorship.** Connect with professors, cooperating teachers, and peers. Strong support networks provide guidance, job leads, and collaboration opportunities.

Part 4: Academic Support Resources

Tutoring Services

The [Tutoring and Learning Center](#) on main campus offers *free, virtual* tutoring services. Your professors should be able to direct you to extra support in any courses you are struggling in. Forming study groups with peers is highly recommended.

The College of Education has a [student resources hub](#) that includes an overview of support for careers and internships, taking the PRAXIS exam, etc.

Workshops & Academic Coaching

[Academic coaching](#) is a one-on-one student interaction with a Tutoring & Learning Center coach. These sessions can be done *virtually* and address a variety of topics including study tips & skills, organization, time management, and transfer student needs.

Prefer support in a group setting? Academic success [workshops](#) are offered throughout the academic year with the Tutoring & Learning Center. The schedule for workshops can be found on the TLC website as well as on their [social media page](#).

Writing & Communication Support

The TUNE Peer Writing Tutor, Brinn Piccuto, has weekly office hours for the fall semester on **Mondays & Wednesdays from 10am-1pm in Room 212**. Brinn can assist students at any stage of the writing process (brainstorming, writing introductions, grammar, APA format, organization, sentence structure, etc.). If you are unavailable to meet during her office hours, contact Brinn at bpiccic2@students.towson.edu to schedule a meeting at another time or to get support asynchronously via email.

The [Writing Center](#) on main campus is also an optional resource and they offer virtual meeting times.

The [Public Communication Center](#) (PCC) provides speech advice to improve public speaking skills to prepare for in-class presentations. Brinn is also available to provide this service for TUNE students.

Tech & Tools

The [Client Services Computer Lab](#) at TUNE is available to students for walk-in computer access and on-site support to answer general technology questions and access to digital media software. [TechHelp](#) is a great resource for any tech-related questions, Blackboard concerns, etc.

Taking online classes? Check out these [student resources for remote learning](#).

Course Registration

Registering for TUNE courses is a unique process compared to registering for classes offered on the main campus. TUNE courses are added to a student's cart using a four-digit class code, rather than utilizing the class search function. The course schedules for each semester can be found on our [website](#).

Students can also utilize our [step-by-step guide](#) on how to register for classes located on the same webpage as above. This guide includes a [video](#) that shows the process visually.

Part 5: TU Department Resources & Information

Library & Research

Cook Library offers research & resource guides for each major. The [Early Childhood-Special Education guide](#) offers access to research articles, books, education websites, children's literature and more. The [Elementary Education-Special Education](#) guide offers similar resources. These guides have information on properly citing sources for academic papers, access to the Teacher Reference Center, and specific industry websites to pay attention to.

Contact Information for Cook Library's Education Librarian:

Miriam DesHarnais

mdesharnais@towson.edu

410-704-4432

Students can also check out books at [Cook Library](#) and have them sent to TUNE for pickup. Simply change the *pickup location* to **TU Northeastern** during the checkout process. You will receive an email from Lauren Zelina, TUNE's Administrative Assistant, to pick up your book from the front desk when it arrives. **Questions about checking out books?** Contact **Kevin Fry** at kfry@towson.edu.

In the TUNE library in Suite 202, students also have access to study and prep materials for taking the PRAXIS, children's books and curriculum to use for practice, and more. Feel free to come sign out these materials to use at your own convenience throughout the semester.

Career Center

TU's [Career Center](#) offers a variety of information to support students preparing for a career in education. The website has specific information about finding an internship, attending a recruitment event for public school systems, job search information, and/or preparing for interviews.

Contact information:

Rosemary Riel, Associate Director, Career Education and Equity

rriel@towson.edu

410-704-5249

Rosemary Riel from the Career Center will be at TUNE **monthly** this fall to offer in-person support and a Lunch & Learn session. Students can meet with Rosemary for assistance finding an internship, resume or cover letter support, applying for jobs or graduate school, or general career guidance. **When here, Rosemary will have a table in the Learning Commons for drop-in support. You can also email her to set up an appointment in advance at rriel@towson.edu.**

Career Center visits will be from **10:30am-2:30pm** on the following **Thursdays**:

September 18th, October 16th, November 20th

- On each of these dates, we are offering a **FREE Lunch & Learn session in Room 112 from 12:30pm-1:30pm**
- Each Lunch & Learn will focus on a different topic:
 - *September-Resume writing*
 - *October-Applying to graduate school*
 - *November-Job search strategies*

[Harford County Public Library](#) offers many free career resources on their website including job search tools, local job openings and more. They also have a [school support resource hub](#) that offers access to resources on building new skills, learning a language, test prep resources, and more.

Mental Health Support

All TU students have access to free, virtual counseling services through the [Counseling Center](#). Appointments can be made online or over the phone and are made for the same day that the student is seeking support.

[Togetherall](#) is a free, 24/7 communication platform for students to have conversations with their peers anonymously about topics related to mental health. Togetherall offers tools and courses to help students find creative strategies for taking care of themselves.

[Welltrack Boost](#) is a mental health self-help app that helps students take inventory of their own wellbeing. The app is free and offers courses, trackers, schedulers, quizzes, and more.

Academic & Disability Support Services

[Accessibility and Disability Support Services](#) collaborates with students, faculty, and staff to ensure equal opportunities and accessibility for students in the classroom. For students interested in getting set up with accommodations, please review the [Getting Started](#) guide. For assistance with this process, contact Allison Frey, the Director of Student Services at TUNE, at afrey@towson.edu.

Emergency Resources

For students who need support navigating a significant life challenge, reach out to [Student Outreach and Support \(SOS\)](#). SOS helps with academic issues, financial concerns, emergency health issues, mental health crises, and more. You can submit a form to SOS for yourself or for a friend.