# Bank Street College of Education

Bank Street College of Education is a leader in early childhood education, a pioneer in improving the quality of classroom practice, and a national advocate for children and their families. Since its inception in 1916, Bank Street has been at the forefront of understanding how children learn and grow. From early childhood centers and schools to hospitals and museums, Bank Street has built a national reputation on the simple fact that our graduates know how to do the work that is right for children.

At Bank Street, our creative approach to teaching and learning recognizes that children learn best when they are actively engaged with materials, ideas, and people. Learning becomes an active, lifelong endeavor in which children and adults alike engage as careful observers, experimenters, and creative thinkers. The approach recognizes that children do not all learn at the same rate or in the same way—effective teaching and learning demands a range of strategies to meet multiple needs.

Through our Graduate School of Education, Children's Programs, and Bank Street Education Center, we help transform the way teachers and children engage in learning. At the Graduate School, we train educators in a model that combines the study of human development, learning theory, and sustained clinical practice to ensure significant development as a teacher or leader prior to graduation. Our School for Children, Family Center, Head Start, and Liberty LEADS programs foster children's development in the broadest sense by providing diverse opportunities for social, emotional, cognitive, and physical growth. In addition, we further support and influence positive outcomes for children, educators, and families through professional development programs, research projects, and other key initiatives at the district, state, and federal levels.

At Bank Street, our longstanding focus has been on children—how they learn, what teachers need to help children learn, and how to support the development of schools and communities that help learners reach their full potential. In the spirit of Bank Street's founder Lucy Sprague Mitchell, we see in education the opportunity to build a better society. Bank Street is poised to play a pivotal role in improving the education of children and their teachers and in championing education as a means to create a more just and democratic world.





## A Closer Look At Our Programs

To improve the life chances of all children, Bank Street College works with exemplary teachers, courageous school leaders, and innovative researchers and practitioners to affirm the power of progressive education and its focus on active learning and democratic ideals. The College's work focuses on the following:

## Children's Programs

**School for Children**
Serves 420 students ages 3-14 years old.

**Family Center**
Serves 60 students in inclusive mixed-age infant-toddler programs and preschool, including 10 SEITs serving 30 children.

**Summer Camp**
Serves 175 children ages 4-14 years old.

**Head Start**
Serves 68 students in a free, full-day pre-K program for 3-5 year olds.

**Liberty LEADS**
Provides 240 students in grades 5-12 support toward high school completion, the ability to persist and succeed in college, and the skills needed to become lifelong learners.

## Graduate School of Education

As of Fall 2025, the graduate school serves over 800 students across multiple teacher preparation, educational leadership, and child life programs. Students participate in supervised fieldwork, called advisement, that includes weekly small-group meetings with faculty and frequent observations at placement.

**Center for Emotionally Responsive Practice**
Supports teachers and schools to develop responsive routines, curriculum, and adult-child interactions that enhance social and emotional development.

**Continuing Professional Studies**
Provides school-based professional development for teachers and leaders as well as informal and formal programs for educators, including on-site trainings and travel programs led by Graduate School of Education faculty.

**Educator Preparation Laboratory**
Brings together preparation programs from across 17 states and the District of Columbia to research, model, and share the practices, structures, and policies that support equity and the deeper learning of all students.

**Occasional Paper Series**
Scholarly publication promoting discussion about what it means to educate in a democracy while meeting the interrelated demands of equity and excellence; published two times per year.

**Straus Institute for Thriving Children & Families**
Brings together research, practice, and policy to strengthen early childhood systems and help improve the lives of children and families.

## Bank Street Education Center

**Early Childhood Education**
Creates joyful, responsive, and meaningful learning experiences and environments for healthy brain development, maximizing each child's potential.

**Culture, Race, and Equity**
Addresses systemic inequitable practices, policies, and procedures to foster more inclusive and just learning environments for all children and families.

**K-12 Math Education**
Shifts educators' mindsets and strengthens their math content and pedagogical skills to provide all students with equitable, high-quality math instruction.

**Responsive Design**
Develops and pilots innovative models to respond to new district demands, including career-connected learning and new school design.