Bank Street Graduate School of Education

The Bank Street Graduate School of Education prepares exceptional educators who enter the world ready to make a difference in the classrooms and communities in which children and adults live and learn. Built on a distinct set of progressive principles, the Graduate School of Education helps teachers, caregivers, and leaders acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to plan, create, and maintain effective learning environments that meet the needs of all learners.

The Bank Street Approach



At the Graduate School, students gain insight into the developmental-interaction approach to teaching and learning, which recognizes that children learn best when teachers build learning relationships based on children's development and when children are actively engaged with materials, ideas, and people. With this in mind, the Graduate School trains students in practices that encourage children and adults to be curious, to ask questions, to love learning, and to respectfully engage with the world around them.

Graduate students at Bank Street hone their skills through a unique three-tiered model that combines the study of human development, pedagogical and leadership practices that support all students' learning, and sustained clinical experience to ensure significant development as an educator or leader. In addition to coursework, students participate in supervised fieldwork and advisement, allowing them to translate theory into practice by spending three to five days a week in the field for a full academic year. Studies culminate in an integrative master's project, in which students complete a rigorous body of work fusing their experiences in the field with their coursework.

Our Degree Programs

Bank Street Graduate School of Education offers degree programs leading to the Master of Science (MS), Master of Science in Education (MSEd), or the advanced Master of Education (EdM) degrees and other certificate programs. All programs are registered with the New York State Education Department and most lead to New York State certification. Programs are offered in online, hybrid, and on-campus formats, expanding access to Bank Street's learner-centered approach to teaching and learning for educators, child life professionals, and leaders wherever they live and work. We also partner with school districts, New York State Boards of Cooperative Educational Services, and community-based organizations to offer specialized programs that meet the needs of their teachers and leaders.

Dual Language/Bilingual Education
Early Childhood Education
Childhood Education
Infant & Family Development and Early Intervention
Reading & Literacy
Special Education
Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)
Early Childhood Leadership
Leadership in Mathematics Education
Progressive Leadership
Child Life
Museum Studies: Learning and Engagement in Museums and Cultural Organizations
Studies in Education

The Graduate School At a Glance

The Graduate School's powerful approach to preparation helps students develop a dynamic, thorough, and humanistic foundation for meaningful professional practice. Graduates leave Bank Street confident, well-prepared, and ready to make an immediate impact in diverse settings. As of Fall 2025, the graduate school is serving approximately 840 students across our degree and certificate programs, and more than 80 percent of graduate school students receive financial aid.

Support for Educators and Schools

Continuing Professional Studies

Offers short-format courses that provide practitioners with practical strategies grounded in theory. Classes qualify for graduate-level credit, Continuing Teacher and Leader Education hours, or Continuing Education Units. We also offer conferences for educators, caregivers, and leaders on topics such as infant and toddler development, teaching kindergarten, and more.

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.

Emotionally Responsive Practice

Provides professional development and on-site consultations to help early childhood and elementary school teachers and leaders develop emotionally responsive school routines, curricula, and adult-child interactions. The center also offers continuing education opportunities for social workers.

Scholarship & Innovation

Straus Institute for Thriving Children & Families

Conducts high-impact research and promotes evidence- and equity-informed policies and programs that benefit young children and families, especially those facing the effects of poverty, racism, and other forms of systemic injustice. Includes the National Center for Children in Poverty (NCCP).

Library

Provides children, families, faculty, and graduate students with resources and materials to support their education. To help expand the intellectual growth of the broader Bank Street community, Library experts host a wide range of events designed to foster discussion across a broad range of ideas and topics.

Occasional Paper Series

Published twice a year, the *Occasional Paper Series* is Bank Street's primary scholarly publication. It is a forum for work that extends, deepens, and tests the progressive legacy on which the College is built. The series is an important voice in national and international conversations about what it means to educate in a democracy while meeting the interrelated demands of equity and excellence.





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College of Education

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