WORKFORCE EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Workforce Education and Development program areas provide both teaching and non-teaching majors that prepare students to become business, family/consumer, and technical educators at the secondary level, or student/staff development personnel.

CONTENT AREAS

- **Business Education** prepares educators to teach management, marketing and accounting in secondary schools.
- **Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher Education** includes health, life skills, nutrition, sewing, personal finance and child care.
- **Industrial Technology Education** prepares educators in the areas of automotive, welding, construction trades, drafting and electronics.
- **Occupational Education Studies** serves students with technical training from Michigan community colleges who desire to become certified teachers.
- **Workforce Education and Development** is a non-teacher certification option that prepares professionals at the baccalaureate level to provide technical training, staff development and career guidance at postsecondary institutions.

37 career clusters and 16 vocational pathways are available through workforce education and development.

100% of 2018-19 WMU workforce education and development graduates were employed in their field within three months of graduation.
PROGRAM STRENGTHS

- Hands-on learning
- Opportunity to “learn while you earn” through supervised on-the-job experiences for WMU credit
- Study with nationally-recognized professors
- Meet career and technical education students and teachers from related occupations
- Graduates are in high demand
- Pre-intern and intern teaching experiences before graduating
- Participate in career and leadership development organizations
- All majors are approved State Board of Education and Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

- Future Teachers of Color
- Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education
- Western Student Education Association

STUDY ABROAD

Participate in the Workforce Education and Development System in Germany study abroad program to discover and explore Germany’s highly-developed apprenticeship system, which serves as a model for most European countries. Participants visit several vocational schools and their partner businesses, observing various teaching and learning styles.

ALL OF THE PROFESSORS AND INSTRUCTORS ARE EXPERTS IN THEIR FIELD, AND THERE WAS NOT A SINGLE CLASS THAT WAS NOT APPLICABLE TO WHAT I AM DOING TODAY.

Lauren Bonner, workforce education and development alumna