Welcome to the

Physics Education Major

in the College of Computational, Mathematical, and Physical Sciences



College Advisement Center
- Website: https://science.byu.edu/advisement
- Email: cmsadvising@byu.edu
- Phone: 801-422-2674
- Office: N-181 ESC

Physics & Astronomy Department
- Website: physics.byu.edu
- Email: physics_office@byu.edu
- Phone: 801-422-4361
- Office: N284 ESC

Faculty Advisor – Adam Bennion & Duane Merrell
- Email: adam_bennion@byu.edu
- Phone: 801-422-3095
- Office: N-319 ESC
- Email: duane_merrell@byu.edu
- Phone: 801-422-2255
- Office: N-143 ESC

Education Advisement Center
- Website: education.byu.edu/advisement
- Email: eac.frontdesk@byu.edu
- Phone: 801-422-3426
- Office: 175 MCKB

Educator: Apply to the program at educator.byu.edu. If you have any technical issues, contact the EPP Help Center at 801-422-1190, https://epp.byu.edu/. You should plan to have the application completely done by the time you finish the PHY S 276 class.

Clubs

Acoustical Society of America – Contact: Micah Shepherd (shep@physics.byu.edu), visit acoustics.byu.edu/asa-student-chapter for more information

BYU Astronomical Society – Contact: Benjamin Boizelle (boizellb@byu.edu), visit physics.byu.edu/clubs/astrosoc/home for more information

Society of Physics Students – Contact: Chris Verhaaren (chris_verhaaren@byu.edu), visit sps.byu.edu for more information

Things to Know

Resources for Graduation Planning

- Flow Charts and Packets can be found here: https://science.byu.edu/advisement/explore-majors-and-minors.
- MAPs can be found in the university catalog.
- Academic advisors in N-181 ESC will help you understand course sequencing and help you plan classes to efficiently fill requirements. They can also help you with study skills and initial career exploration as well as connecting you with correct resources.
- Plan and register from your plan on MyMAP. Your academic advisor can help you understand how to best utilize this resource.
- Evaluate your current program. Periodically major programs are updated. An academic advisor would be happy to review the differences between the programs with you to help you determine what would be best for you.
- Consider meeting with a faculty advisor in your department. Contact info is found on the first page of this packet.

Tutoring Resources and Research

- Volunteer peer tutors are available through Y-Serve if you need help with a class. Also, if you excel in a subject, consider serving your fellow students by becoming a tutor. Find out more here: https://tutoring.byu.edu/.
- Many departments provide TA Tutorial Labs and research opportunities. Check your department for details:
  - Chemistry and Biochemistry: C-100 BNSN, 801-422-3667, https://www.chem.byu.edu/department/faculty/
  - Computer Science: 3361 TMCB, 801-422-3027, cs-office@byu.edu
  - Geological Sciences: S-389 ESC, 801-422-3918, geology@byu.edu
  - Mathematics: 275 TMCB, 801-422-2061, office@mathematics.byu.edu
  - Mathematics Education: A180 ESC, 801-422-1735, office@mathed.byu.edu
  - Physics and Astronomy: N-283 ESC, 801-422-4361, physics_office@byu.edu
  - Statistics: 2152 WVB, 801-422-4505, statsec@stat.byu.edu

Prepare Early for a Career

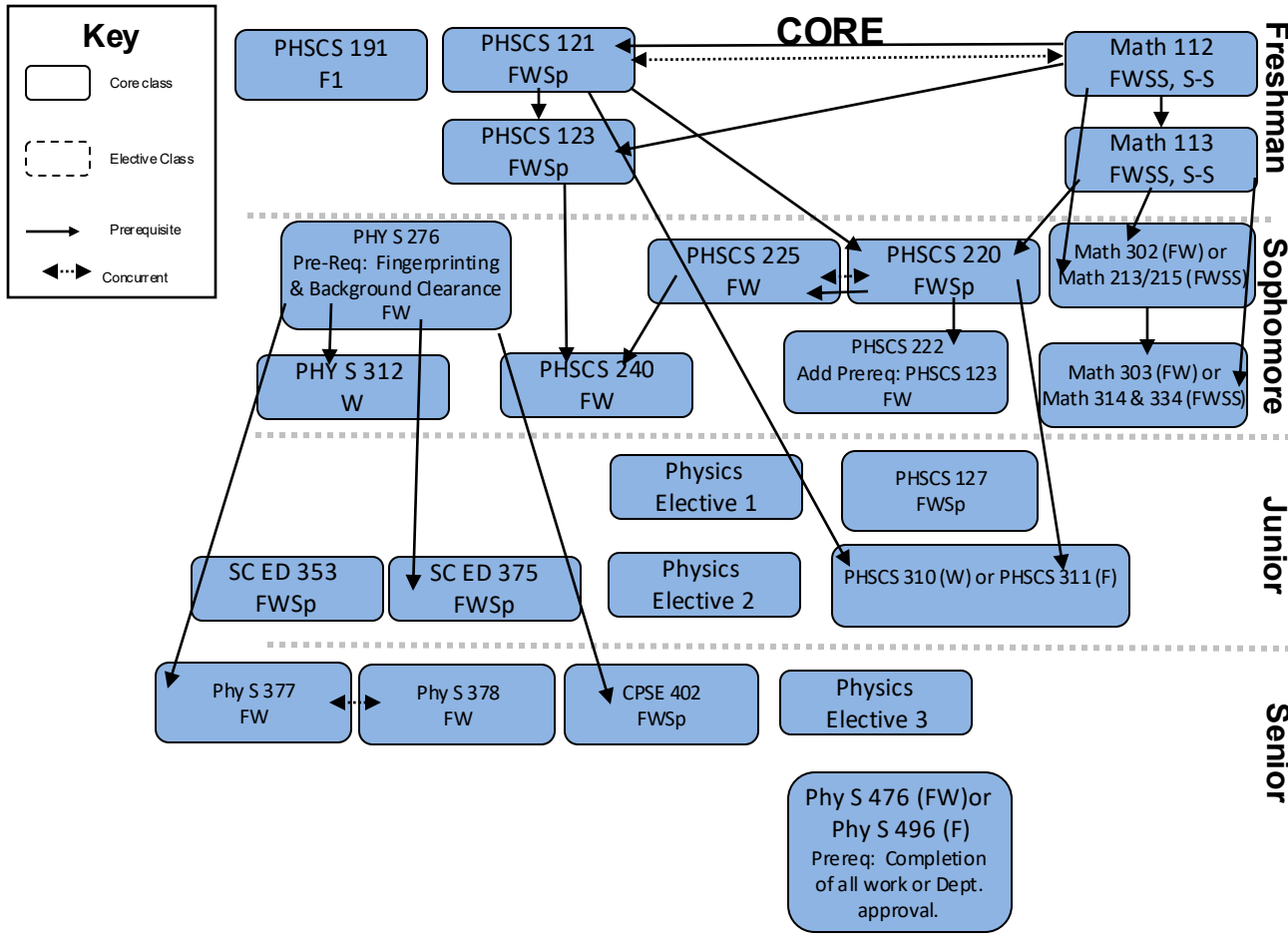
- Check out Careers & Experiential Learning in 1134 WSC and at careers.byu.edu.
- Visit BYU's Career Studio to work on your resume, cover letter, or other professional documents; learn to navigate LinkedIn, Handshake, and CareerShift; receive networking help; practice interview skills.
- Consider doing an internship.
  - Attend the STEM and Career Fairs held in fall and winter semesters.
  - Talk to your department about internship opportunities.
  - Use LinkedIn and Handshake (see flyer in this packet) to connect with alumni and apply for jobs/internships. BYU Connect is another great resource for networking (connect.byu.edu).
  - Talk with the college or department Career Director who can help you search for internships as well as assist you with many other career related strategies (see first page of this packet).
- Consider taking StDev 317 (Career Strategies) your junior year.
- Consider taking either Chem 502, CS 502, Geol 502, Math 502, PHSCS 502, or STAT 502 (1-credit Networking Class). Class is held for 1 hour each week.

BYU
Physics Education BS

Requirements / Prerequisites
2026-2027 Academic Year

Major (77.5-78.5 Hours)

1. Admission into the major or minor requires the following **1)** 2.7 minimum high school/college GPA (be in the average of 3.0 for cohort), **2)** fingerprint background check, **3)** a cohort average ACT score of 21.25 (17 minimum) in reading, average cohort score of 21.25 (17 minimum) in math, and an average cohort writing score of 6.60 (5 minimum or completion of the first-year writing requirement) **or** a SAT average cohort reading score of 543.33 (435 minimum), average cohort math score of 532.5 (426 minimum), and an average cohort essay score of 5.30 (4 minimum or completion of the first-year writing requirement). Anyone who has not taken the correct ACT or SAT tests will need to take the Praxis Core tests and receive a 165 (132 minimum) for writing, 162.14 (130 minimum) for math, and 168.06 (134 minimum) for reading.
2. Grades below C in professional education courses or content courses will not be accepted.
3. Complete the following: Math 112, Math 113, PHSCS 121, PHSCS 123, PHSCS 127, PHSCS 191, PHSCS 220, PHSCS 222, PHSCS 225, PHSCS 240.
4. Complete one of the following math options: Take either Math 302 and Math 303 OR Math 213, Math 215, Math 314, and Math 334.
5. Complete one of the following: PHSCS 310 or PHSCS 311.
6. Complete 9 hours from the following. Three hours may come from list A. and up to 9 credits may come from list B (at least 6 credits must come from list B).
   A. Phil 423R, PHSCS 137, PHSCS 167, PHSCS 310, PHSCS 311, PHSCS 313R.
   B. PHSCS 313R, PHSCS 318, PHSCS 321, PHSCS 329, PHSCS 330, PHSCS 360, PHSCS 391R, PHSCS 416, PHSCS 427, PHSCS 428, PHSCS 430, PHSCS 441, PHSCS 442, PHSCS 451, PHSCS 452, PHSCS 461, PHSCS 471, PHSCS 477R, PHSCS 492R, PHSCS 497R, PHSCS 498R, PHSCS 540, PHSCS 560, PHSCS 561, PHSCS 571, PHSCS 581, PHSCS 583, PHSCS 585, PHSCS 586, PHSCS 587, PHSCS 588, PHSCS 599R. See Catalog or MyMAP for Pre-reqs.
7. Complete the Professional Education Component: CPSE 402, PHY S 312, PHY S 276, Phy S 377, PHY S 378, SC ED 353, SC ED 375
8. Take either PHY S 476 or Phy S 496



Physics Education Minor (27 Credits)

1. Take the following 7 courses: Math 113, PHSCS 121, PHSCS 123, PHSCS 220, PHSCS 222, PHSCS 225, PHSCS 240.
2. Take Phy S 377
3. Take PHSCS 477R

F=Fall, W=Winter, Sp=Spring, Su=Summer, S-S=Spring-Summer, SS=Spring & Summer.

Guide only—please consult MyMAP for full requirements.

Note: When Taught is subject to change.

Updated 10/02/2026

Handshake

At A Glance

Handshake is BYU's own job board. Employers who want to hire BYU graduates or offer internships to current students post their job openings to this website and students can apply. Just like LinkedIn, employers can view student profiles and students can network as they apply for jobs and internships.

Login to Handshake.byu.edu with your netid@byu.edu

1. Download Handshake App

- Select Continue with School
- Type in "Brigham Young University"
- Select School Login
- Input your BYU e-mail address: netid@byu.edu (it will forward emails to the e-mail you have on file with BYU)
- Handshake will send you a link via e-mail to enable your account in the app
- Navigate the app to perform all the funcions of the website that have been previoiusly mentioned

2. Complete Your Profile

- Fill in the Summary/Bio section
- Fill in your past jobs and experiences, including all the bullet points you use on your resume
- Add a professional headshot and background photo
- Information from your transcript is already uploaded
- Make your profile discoverable to employers

Remember: Every word in your profile will be searchable by students and employers

3. Apply For Jobs

- Search collections related to your major
- Search for job titles, employers, or skills
- Apply for interesting jobs that meet your skill set

4. Research Companies

- Under the Jobs tab there is an Employers tab
- Use keywords or locations to search for companies that are the right fit for you
- Plan to attend employer info sessions on BYU Campus, connect with employers at Career Fairs or set up informational interviews with them.

Remember: When looking at companies or jobs, Handshake will tell you what other BYU Students have worked there. Use this resource to network and discover more information!

5. Explore Fellow Students

- Use the People tab to find peers
- Search for fellow BYU students to view their profiles and job positions
- Attend events

Employers are
5x more likely
to view a profile that has at least one job, skill, and organization.

6. Attend Events

- The Events tab will be your key to finding info sessions interviews, and Career Fairs
- Make sure to save events you are interested in and RSVP so you do not forget to attend
- Spread the word to your friends on social media
- Use Collections to filter results in your major

BYU Career Services
1134 WSC
(801) 422-3000
careers.byu.edu

Career Services studio!

Handshake Profile Rubric

Name: Reviewer: Date:

Meets and/or Exceeds Expectations	Partially Meets Expectations	Does Not Meet Expectations
Profile includes a photo that is professionally appropriate for the student's intended industry.	Profile includes a photo but it is not professionally appropriate.	Profile does not include a photo.
My Journey section includes specific information about the student's skills, experience, and goals. The section is free from grammatical and spelling errors.	My Journey section is vague. Summary contains one or more grammatical/spelling errors.	Student has not written anything in the My Journey section.
Expected graduation date has been added to Education section.		Expected graduation date has not been added to Education section.
Experience section includes at least 2 entries. Each entry includes title, employer, dates, location and a description of the work done.	Experience section includes 2 entries but no description of work is provided.	Experience section contains less than 2 entries.
The Job Hunt, Cities, and Industries fields of the Your Career Interests section are complete.	Fill out entire Career Interests section on profile (especially types of jobs) and where you are interested in living sections (partially).	The Job Hunt, Cities, and Industries fields of the Your Interests section are not complete.
Profile includes at least 3 skills.	Profile includes 1-2 skills.	Profile does not include any skills.
A resume is uploaded to profile and is viewable by employers (public).	A resume is uploaded to the profile but not viewable by employers.	A resume is not uploaded to the profile.

All other fields/categories make your profile more robust, which makes it more likely to be viewed by employers and promote your brand.

Research Groups	
Group	**Website**
Acoustics	https://physics.byu.edu/groups/acoustics
Astronomy	https://physics.byu.edu/groups/astronomy
Biophysics	https://physics.byu.edu/groups/biophysics
Data Science	https://physics.byu.edu/groups/data-science
Education Research	https://physics.byu.edu/groups/education
Laser Science Research	https://physics.byu.edu/groups/laser-science
Materials	https://physics.byu.edu/groups/materials
Quantum	https://physics.byu.edu/groups/quantum
Theory Research Group	https://physics.byu.edu/groups/theory