

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Associate in Applied Science Degree

The 60 credit-hour curriculum is designed to provide students with the requisite skills and theoretical knowledge to work in a variety of facilities for young children as a teacher or director for half-day and full day early childhood centers; a teacher's assistant in academic at-risk, special needs and public school classrooms; resource and referral agencies; before/after school care, recreational programs and related settings.

Students must choose a basic program of study as a teacher or director. Students earning an associate in applied science degree in early childhood education must complete the following required general education courses, required core courses, and 21 credit hours from the specialized study areas.

Upon completion of courses for the specialized area of director, and in order to qualify for the Illinois Director Credential, students will need to provide proof of First Aid/CPR certification, and verification of 1200 hours of management experience.

Required General Education Courses:

ENG	101	Composition.....	3
ENG	103	Technical and Report Writing or	
SPE	101	Fundamentals of Speech Communication.....	3
		Humanities elective ⁴	3
		Mathematics ¹	3
		Natural Science elective ²	3
PSY	101	Introduction to Psychology.....	3

Required Core Courses:

ECE	101	Introduction to Early Childhood Education.....	3
ECE	102	Child Development I.....	3
ECE	103	Child Development II.....	3
ECE	115	Principles of Early Childhood Curriculum.....	3
ECE	226	Observation and Guidance of the Young Child.....	3
ECE	250	Health, Nutrition and Safety.....	3
ECE	252	Child-Family-Community.....	3

Specialized Study Areas:

Required:

Early Childhood Education: Teacher

ECE	209	Language Development and Activities for the Young Child.....	3
ECE	210	Creative Activities for Young Children or	
ECE	230	Movement and Rhythms for the Young Child.....	3
ECE	219	Students with Disabilities in School or	
ECE	223	Exceptional Child in Early Childhood Programs.....	3
ECE	221	Math and Science for the Young Child.....	3
ECE	291	Early Childhood Practicum I.....	3
ECE	292	Early Childhood Practicum II.....	3
		ECE electives ³	3

Early Childhood Education: Director

CIS	120	Introduction to Business Software.....	3
ECE	219	Students with Disabilities in School.....	3
ECE	253	Administration of Early Childhood Programs.....	3

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Associate in Applied Science Degree continued...

ECE	254	Interpersonal Relations in Early Childhood Education	1
ECE	293	Early Childhood Director Practicum	3
FSM	114	Food Standards and Sanitation	2
MGT	160	Principles of Supervision	3
MKT	245	Principles of Marketing	3

¹ A competency test, available in the Assessment and Testing Center, may be utilized to meet the mathematics requirement. Students in this program who utilize the competency test to meet the mathematics requirement must complete SOC 101 in order to have the 60 semester hours required for this degree.

² Natural Science elective: BIO 101 or BIO 103.

³ ECE electives: Any ECE course including ECE 140, ECE 143, ECE 144, ECE 146, ECE 149, ECE 151, ECE 152, ECE 153, ECE 154, ECE 155 or ECE 156.

♦ Humanities elective: HST 210, HUM 110, or MUS 104. All courses meet the World Cultures and Diversity graduation requirement.

Early Childhood Education: Before/After School Care Certificate

This six credit-hour certificate program provides basic knowledge about developmentally appropriate programming and guidance for school age care.

Required:

ECE	226	Observation and Guidance of the Young Child	3
ECE	235	Principles of School Age Care	3

Early Childhood Education: Family Child Care Certificate

This nine credit-hour certificate program provides practical knowledge, including the legal requirements, for administering and running a family child care home.

Required:

ECE	140	Family Child Care Management.....	1
ECE	143	Safety for the Young Child	1
ECE	144	Nutrition for the Young Child	1
ECE	151	Communicating with Parents and Children.....	1
ECE	152	Principles of Child Growth and Development, Birth-5.....	1
ECE	153	Guiding Children and Managing the Classroom	1
ECE	154	Activities and Resources for Young Children I	1
ECE	155	Activities and Resources for Young Children II	1

Elective: Select one course from the following:

ECE	146	Programming for School Age Care	1
ECE	149	Topics in Early Childhood Education	1
ECE	156	Effective Teaching	1

Early Childhood Education: Infant/Toddler Certificate

This nine credit-hour certificate program provides theoretical and practical knowledge about infants and toddlers.

Required:

ECE	102	Child Development I	3
ECE	111	First Three Years of Life.....	3
ECE	112	Play and Assessment for the Young Child	3

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Early Childhood Education: Special Education Paraprofessional Certificate

This six credit-hour certificate program will provide a paraprofessional in a special education facility with basic knowledge regarding characteristics of children with special needs, methods, and behavioral management techniques within the special education population.

Required:

ECE	120	Introduction to Special Education for Paraprofessionals	3
ECE	121	Behavioral Management in Special Education Setting	3

Early Childhood Education: Administrator Certificate

This 19 credit-hour certificate program is designed specifically to meet the training/educational requirements of early childhood centers, as requested by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, Text of Adopted Rules.

Minimal education requirements for a director in a licensed child care center are two years of credit from an accredited college or university with 18 credit hours or equivalent quarter hours in courses related to child care and/or child development from birth to age six.

Required:

ECE	102	Child Development I	3
ECE	103	Child Development II	3
ECE	115	Principles of Early Childhood Curriculum.....	3
ECE	226	Observation and Guidance of the Young Child	3
ECE	252	Child-Family-Community	3
ECE	253	Administration of Early Childhood Programs	3
ECE	254	Interpersonal Relationships In Early Childhood Education.....	1

Early Childhood Education: Assistant Teacher Certificate

This six credit-hour certificate program will provide an assistant teacher in a licensed child care facility with basic knowledge regarding child growth/development and developmentally appropriate programming.

Required:

ECE	102	Child Development I	3
ECE	115	Principles of Early Childhood Curriculum	3

Early Childhood Education: Teacher Certificate

This 30 credit-hour certificate program emphasizes a combination of theoretical and practical knowledge. It meets the minimal educational requirements established by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, for an early childhood teacher who has obtained one year's experience in a licensed center.

Required:

ECE	101	Introduction to Early Childhood Education.....	3
ECE	102	Child Development I	3
ECE	115	Principles of Early Childhood Curriculum	3
ECE	209	Language Development and Activities for the Young Child	3
ECE	210	Creative Activities for Young Children or	
ECE	221	Math and Science for the Young Child	3
ECE	219	Students with Disabilities in School or	
ECE	223	Exceptional Child in Early Childhood Programs	3
ECE	226	Observation and Guidance of the Young Child	3
ECE	252	Child-Family-Community	3
ECE	291	Early Childhood Practicum I	3
ENG	101	Composition.....	3