

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Associate in Applied Science A.A.S.: Option 1: Early Childhood Education Degree - Director

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 director for half-day and full-day early childhood centers.

Upon completion of courses for the specialized area of director, demonstration of proof of First Aid/CPR certification and verification of 1200 hours of management experience, students need to complete an IL Gateways application to qualify for the Illinois Director Credential Level 1.

This sequenced degree plan is one of two options that students may pursue to earn the Early Childhood Education Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree. While there are multiple specializations, **this particular degree can be awarded only once.**

F = Fall only course S = Spring only course U = Summer only course

FIRST SEMESTER:

Number	Course Title	Credits	Course Category
ECE 101	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3	Program Requirement
ECE 102	Child Development	3	Program Requirement
ECE 115	Principles of Early Childhood Curriculum	3	Program Requirement
ENG 101	Composition	3	AAS General Education
	Mathematics ¹	3	AAS General Education

SECOND SEMESTER:

Number	Course Title	Credits	Course Category
ECE 226	Assessment and Guidance	3	Program Requirement
ECE 250	Health, Nutrition and Safety	3	Program Requirement
ECE 252	Child-Family-Community	3	Program Requirement
MGT 205	Leadership	3	Program Requirement
SPE 101	Fundamentals of Speech Communication	3	AAS General Education

THIRD SEMESTER:

Number	Course Title	Credits	Course Category
ECE 253	Administration of Early Childhood Programs (F)	3	Program Requirement
EDU 219	Students With Disabilities in School	3	Program Requirement
EDU 220	Diversity in Schools and Society+	3	Program Requirement
EDU 250	Introduction to Technology in Education (F)	3	Program Requirement
PSY 101	Introduction to Psychology+	3	AAS General Education

FOURTH SEMESTER:

Number	Course Title	Credits	Course Category
	AAS General Education elective ²	3	AAS General Education
ECE 254	Interpersonal Relationships in Early Child Education (S)	1	Program Requirement
ECE 293	Early Childhood Director Practicum (S)	3	Program Requirement
	ECE elective ³	3	Program Requirement
FSM 114	Food Standards and Sanitation	2	Program Requirement
MKT 245	Principles of Marketing	3	Program Requirement

¹ The mathematics requirement for this degree (MTH 065) can be met with Math Competency. See [Math Competency options](#) for information. Students who utilize Math Competency to meet the mathematics requirement must complete an additional three credit-hour AAS General Education elective. See full list of [AAS General Education Electives](#).

+ This course meets the World Culture and Diversity graduation requirement.

² See full list of [AAS General Education Electives](#).

³ ECE elective: Any ECE course.