

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CARE, A.A.S.

The **Early Childhood Education and Care program** prepares students to enter the early childhood education and early childhood field. Students acquire the skills, knowledge and attitudes to work with infants, toddlers, preschool-age and school-age children. Jobs for degree and certificate graduates are widely available in child care centers, preschools, park districts and public schools. This degree program requires a minimum of 64 credits in program requirements, program electives, electives and general education in the courses listed below.

For more information about Early Childhood Education and Care, please visit the program of study page (<http://www.cod.edu/eccec/>).

Degree Requirements

Field of Study Code: ECEC.AAS

Code	Title	Credits
Program Requirements		
ECEC 1100	Intro to the Early Childhood Profession	3
ECEC 1101	Growth & Development of the Young Child	3
ECEC 1102	Child Guidance Practices	3
ECEC 1130	Methods: Discovery & the Physical World	3
ECEC 1140	Methods: Self-Expression & Social World	3
ECEC 1151	Language and Literacy Development in a Diverse Classroom	3
ECEC 2211	Child Health, Safety and Nutrition	3
ECEC 2220	Early Childhood Education Practicum	4
ECEC 2251	Curriculum Planning for the Young Child	3
ECEC 2252	Child/Family/Community Relations & Resources	3
ECEC 2260	Early Childhood Professional	3
Program Electives		
Select four credits in Early Childhood Education and Care courses ¹		4
Electives		
Select from any 1000- or 2000-level courses ¹		5-6
General Education		
Select 21 credits ¹		21
Total Credits		64-65

¹ In addition to the courses listed above.

General Education Requirements

For general education requirements for the AAS degree, please visit the AAS degree catalog page (<https://catalog.cod.edu/associate-degree-programs/associate-applied-science-degree/>).

Suggested Semester Sequence

Course	Title	Credits
First Semester		
ECEC 1100	Intro to the Early Childhood Profession	3
ECEC 1101	Growth & Development of the Young Child	3
ECEC 2211	Child Health, Safety and Nutrition	3

GEN ED	English, Math ¹ , Science, SBS	6
Credits		15
Second Semester		
ECEC 1102	Child Guidance Practices ²	3
ECEC 2251	Curriculum Planning for the Young Child	3
ECEC 2252	Child/Family/Community Relations & Resources ³	3
GEN ED	English, Math ¹ , Science, SBS	6
Credits		15
Summer Semester		
ELECTIVE	Program Elective	2-3
ELECTIVE ⁴		2-3
Credits		4-6
Third Semester		
ECEC 1130	Methods: Discovery & the Physical World ⁵	3
ECEC 1140	Methods: Self-Expression & Social World ⁵	3
ECEC 2260	Early Childhood Professional ^{5,6}	3
GEN ED	Elective	3
GEN ED	Humanities/Fine Arts	3
Credits		15
Fourth Semester		
ECEC 1151	Language and Literacy Development in a Diverse Classroom ^{2,7}	3
ECEC 2220	Early Childhood Education Practicum	4
ELECTIVE	Program Elective	2
See Christine for remaining electives to complete		6
Credits		15
Total Credits		64-66

- ¹ Students need to take the math placement test as early as possible.
- ² Only offered Spring semester.
- ³ Students will complete Service Learning in ECEC 2252 Child/Family/Community Relations & Resources.
- ⁴ ECEC 1110 Parenting and the Young Child recommended.
- ⁵ Only offered Fall semester.
- ⁶ May be taken in an earlier Fall semester if prerequisites are completed.
- ⁷ May be taken in an earlier Spring semester if the prerequisites have been completed.

Program Milestones

First Semester

- Consider joining or visiting with a professional, cultural or interest-based Student Club (http://cod.edu/student_life/clubs_org/).
- Complete first year academic plan with ECEC program advisor Christine Jandak (jandakc@cod.edu).
- Register for next semester courses based on meeting with Christine.
- Apply for COD and Gateway Scholarships (<http://www.ilgateways.com/>).

Second Semester

- If you have not done so yet this semester, it is important to make an appointment with a Faculty or Program Advisor (<https://>

cod.edu/academics/programs/ecec/faculty.aspx) to discuss your future academic progress.

- At the end of the semester. Apply for the Early Childhood Assistant Teacher Certificate
- Apply for Gateways Level 2 Credential (<http://www.ilgateways.com/>) (entitled route).
- Contact a Student Education Association (SEA@cod.edu) (SEA) representative with questions.

- School-Age Child Care, Certificate (<https://catalog.cod.edu/programs-study/early-childhood-education-care/school-age-child-care-certificate/>)

Summer Semester

- Meet with Christine again if you have not already done so to plan for the upcoming academic year and get registered for Fall courses.
- Students who also want to be consider 'Director Qualified' may want to take one of the Administration courses (offered each semester) as well as the Special Need course (offered Spring semester).
- Those looking to earn their Infant/Toddler Credential may also take one/both of the Infant/Toddler courses as their electives. Please see Christine for details.

Third Semester

- At the end of the semester. Apply for Early Childhood Advanced Assistant Teacher Certificate and Apply for Gateways Level 3 Credential (<http://www.ilgateways.com/>) (entitled route).
- Complete a resume.
- Meet with ECEC Clinical Chair regarding degree completion and Practicum placement **by midterm** to apply for Practicum. See the Program Requirement section above.

Fourth Semester

- Apply for the Administration of an Early Childhood Center Degree and Graduation.
- Apply for the Gateways Level 4 Credential (<http://www.ilgateways.com/>) (entitled route).
- Update your resume.

This page lists programs related to one another.

- Early Childhood Administration, A.A.S. (<https://catalog.cod.edu/programs-study/early-childhood-education-care/early-childhood-administration-aas/>)
- Early Childhood Advanced Assistant Teacher, Certificate (<https://catalog.cod.edu/programs-study/early-childhood-education-care/early-childhood-advanced-assistant-teacher-certificate/>)
- Early Childhood Assistant Teacher, Certificate (<https://catalog.cod.edu/programs-study/early-childhood-education-care/early-childhood-assistant-teacher-certificate/>)
- Early Childhood Education and Care Administrator, Certificate (<https://catalog.cod.edu/programs-study/early-childhood-education-care/early-childhood-education-care-administrator-certificate/>)
- Family Child Care Provider, Certificate (<https://catalog.cod.edu/programs-study/early-childhood-education-care/family-child-care-provider-certificate/>)
- Infant, Toddler and Two-Year Old Child Care, Certificate (<https://catalog.cod.edu/programs-study/early-childhood-education-care/infant-toddler-two-year-old-child-care-certificate/>)
- Multicultural Education and Care for the Young Child, Certificate (<https://catalog.cod.edu/programs-study/early-childhood-education-care/multicultural-education-care-young-child-certificate/>)