

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

WCCC offers **Associate in Applied Science and Certificate programs** in Early Childhood Education. The Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in Early Childhood Education (ECE) prepares graduates to enter positions in a variety of programs that serve children birth to eight years of age, including programs that serve children with special learning and developmental needs. Through a combination of coursework and practical internships, students gain foundational knowledge of the theories of child development along with opportunities for hands on experience including the delivery of meaningful curriculum, practice of observation and assessment, and the use of positive guidance and discipline strategies. That National Association of Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Professional Preparation Standards are weaved through ECE courses and internship experiences to prepare students with a working knowledge of core values and principles in the profession of early childhood education. The AAS degree may also be a pathway to earning a bachelor's degree and a teaching certificate.

The **Early Childhood Education CDA certificate program** at WCCC is a two-semester, integrated, comprehensive program covering 35 topics in Early Childhood Education in three courses (ECE101, ECE103, and PSY195), and 15 Early Childhood topics in special education and the field experience. Students apply for the national CDA credential through the Council for Professional Recognition.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

1. Use child development knowledge base to create safe, health, respectful, supportive environments for all young children.
2. Understand the importance of developmental domains – cognitive, physical, social, emotional to design, implement and evaluate meaningful curriculum for each child.
3. Use a variety of developmentally appropriate approaches and instructional strategies to guide children's development and learning.
4. Understand and conduct observation and assessment to promote positive outcomes for use in development of appropriate goals, curriculum, and teaching strategies for young children.
5. Understand the complex and diverse characteristics of children's families and communities and build reciprocal relationships that support families.
6. Understand that positive relationships are the foundation of work with young children.
7. Engage in professional behavior and use ethical guidelines to uphold ethical standards as a member of the early childhood profession.



Washington County Community College is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution and employer. For more information; please call Tatiana Osmond, Affirmative Action Officer, at 454-1040



Apply Now!
Use this QR code or go to
wccc.me.edu/apply.

The Early Childhood Education program requires completion of the Student Disclosure of Criminal Convictions, Pending Criminal Charges and Certain Disqualifications. Completion of this form does not automatically deny admission to the program. Prospective applicants will meet with the Dean of Enrollment Management and Student Services to review information. The form can be found at wccc.me.edu/admissions-aid/admissions/admission-forms-documents.

Early Childhood Education Course Curriculum

Associate in Applied Science

62 Credit Hours

Course #	Required for Associate Degree Option	Credits
Semester 1		
ENG101	College Composition	3
FYE100	First Year Experience	1
ECE 100	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3
EDU 180	Children's Literature	3
PSY 101	Introduction to Psychology	3
PSY 190	Child and Adolescent Development	3
Total		16
Semester 2		
ECE 104	Professional Development in Early Childhood Education	3
ECE 185	Observation and Assessment in Early Childhood	3
MAT	Math Elective of MAT 112 or above	3
SED 220	Education of Young Children with Special Needs	3
SOC 101	Introduction of Sociology	3
Total		15
Semester 3		
BIO 120	General Biology	4
ECE 197	Field Experience in ECE	3
ECE 210	Child Guidance and Discipline	3
ECE 230	Curriculum in Early Childhood Education (Birth to Age 3)	3
ENG 107	Speech	3
Total		16
Semester 4		
ECE 235	Curriculum in Early Childhood Education (Ages 3-8)	3
EDU 280	Internship in Early Childhood Education	6
Elective	Approved Education Elective	3
HUS 255	Diverse Care in Human Services	3
Total		15

Cost per credit hour is \$96. For more information visit: <https://wccc.me.edu/admissions-aid/finances/tuition-fees/>
 Financial Aid is available for students who qualify at www.FAFSA.Ed.Gov School Code: 009231

Visiting the campus is easy. Contact the Office of Admissions at 207-454-1000 or wcccadmissions@maineccc.edu to schedule a time to visit!
 For more program specific information, please contact the program instructor Mindy Reynolds, mreynolds@maineccc.edu or 207-454-1044