

EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION, Certificate - 5170

Social Science Department

CIP Code: 13.1210

The Early Childhood Care and Education certificate prepares graduates to enter the workforce at the career lattice level IV as determined by the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL). This lattice encourages practitioners to obtain credentials and degrees, as well as plan their educational pathway. This curriculum provides students the opportunity to spend approximately 46-hours of field experience working in a variety of childcare settings. This certificate also provides those students interested in obtaining the Infant and Toddler credential may select specific courses within the open electives that will aid them in obtaining this goal.

The following must be completed (at the student's expense) prior to enrolling in EDUC 111. FBI Clearance, ACT 151: PA Child Abuse History Clearance, ACT 34: Request for Criminal Record Check - PA State Police and TB testing. The student should consider these factors before enrolling. If the student has any questions regarding this, he or she should contact the program director. The complete program is available at the Harrisburg and York campuses. Students may also complete this program at the Lancaster Campus by taking some courses through Virtual Learning.

Career Opportunities

As defined by the OCDEL career lattice at Level IV, graduates can obtain employment in Child Care/School Age Care Programs as Aides/Family Child Care Providers, Assistant Teachers, or Assistant Group Supervisors; in Early Head Start/Head Start Programs as Assistant Teachers/Aides, or Teacher/Home Visitors; in Public School Districts as Assistant Teachers (Para-professional); or in Private Academic Schools as Aides. **(SOC Code: 25-2011 Preschool Teachers)**

Competency Profile

In conjunction with National Association for the Education of Young Children's (NAEYC) Standards, this curriculum is designed to prepare students to:

- Apply the theories of child development in order to promote healthy and challenging learning environments
- Observe and assess children's development and document their learning in order to assist in the delivery of appropriate curriculum and promote positive outcomes for each child
- Use content knowledge to recognize meaningful curriculum
- Use effective strategies to implement developmentally-appropriate teaching and learning
- Assist the lead teacher in supporting and involving families and communities in their child's development and learning
- Uphold national standards for professionalism and ethics as well as participate in continuous professional growth

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (TOTAL CREDITS = 31)

General Education	Major Requirements	Other Required Courses
	EDUC 111 Fundamentals of Early Childhood Care & Education	4
	EDUC 120 Observation & Assessment of the Young Child	3
	EDUC 135 Health, Safety & Nutrition in ECE	3
	EDUC 140 Integrating the Arts & Play as Educative Process	3
	EDUC 145 Infant & Toddler Care & Education	3
	EDUC 185 Development & Behavior in Children	3
	EDUC 211 Early Childhood Inclusion	3
	EDUC 220 Mathematics for the Young Learner	3
	*Open Electives	6
		31

*Choose from the following courses: EDUC 113, 117, 131, 175, 260, 270, 295, and 296.

RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE FOR FULL-TIME STUDENTS

Part-time students can complete this program by taking one or more courses each semester.

Fall Semester I		Spring Semester I	
EDUC 111	4	EDUC 120	3
EDUC 135	3	EDUC 145	3
EDUC 140	3	EDUC 211	3
EDUC 185	3	EDUC 220	3
Open Elective*	3	Open Elective*	3