

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Associate Degree
10-307-1

The Early Childhood Education program prepares students to work as teacher-caregivers in early childhood settings. It combines hands-on fieldwork in area centers with related academic work at the college. Graduates become responsible for the care and education of children in the birth-to-eight-years age range. They create and maintain safe and healthy play environments, guide behavior, plan and implement learning activities, and work cooperatively with staff and parents.

Early Childhood Education is a career option that has increased in demand. This expanding field is seeking potential students with keen observation skills, a talent for human insight, clear communication skills, and respect for children and families. Early Childhood Associate Degree graduates will meet the state educational requirements to be a Child Care Teacher in a licensed group early childhood center for children ages 2 weeks to 10 years old.

Program Outcomes

- Apply child development theory to practice.
- Cultivate relationships with children, family, and the community.
- Assess child growth and development.
- Use best practices in teaching and learning.
- Demonstrate professionalism.
- Integrate health, safety, and nutrition practices.

Graduates Have Found Employment As

- Nannies
- Nursery Schools
- Day Care Centers
- Head Start Classrooms
- Infant Toddler Center
- Before & After School Child Care Centers
- Instructional Services Aide in public schools
- Early Childhood Centers Administration positions

View the entire course listing (<http://catalog.blackhawk.edu/courses>).

General Education Courses Within Program

Semester 1		Credits
307-148	ECE: Foundations of Early Childhood Education	3
307-167	ECE: Health, Safety, and Nutrition	3
307-151	ECE: Infant & Toddler Development	3
307-174	ECE: Introductory Practicum	3
801-195	Written Communication	3
Credits		15
Semester 2		
307-179	ECE: Child Development	3
307-188	ECE: Guiding Children's Behavior	3
307-108	ECE: Early Language & Literacy	3

307-110	ECE: Social Studies, Art & Music	3
307-177	ECE: Intermediate Practicum	3
Credits		15
Semester 3		
307-187	ECE: Children with Differing Abilities	3
307-175	ECE: Preschool Practicum	3
307-131	ECE: STEM	3
801-198	Speech	3
804-118 or 806-112	Intermediate Algebra with Applications or Principles of Sustainability	4
Credits		16
Semester 4		
307-195	ECE: Family and Community Relationships	3
307-199	ECE: Advanced Practicum	3
809-196	Introduction to Sociology	3
809-198	Introduction to Psychology	3
307-198 or 999-999	ECE: Administering an ECE Program or Elective	3
Credits		15
Total Credits		61

Code	Title	Credits
801-195 or 801-136	Written Communication English Composition 1	3
801-198	Speech	3
804-107 or 804-118 or 806-112	College Mathematics Intermediate Algebra with Applications Principles of Sustainability	3
809-172	Introduction to Diversity Studies	3
809-198	Introduction to Psychology	3

Associate Degrees and Technical Diplomas are part of a larger model of BTC's Career Pathways which link related academic programs in sequence. Each program within a career pathway offers direct job preparation and a path to the next level of academic programming. To view the connected program model, visit the Early Childhood Education Career Path (<http://catalog.blackhawk.edu/academics/associate-degrees/early-childhood-education/ECECareerPath.pdf>) (PDF).