

Early Childhood Education

PAY

The median annual wage for preschool teachers was \$28,990 in May 2017.

JOB OUTLOOK

Employment of preschool teachers is projected to grow 10 percent from 2016 to 2026, faster than average for all occupations. Growth is expected due to a continued focus on the importance of early childhood education and the growing population of children ages 3 to 5. Employment of 22,290 childcare workers is projected to grow 7 percent from 2016 to 2026, about as fast as the average for all occupations. Growth is expected due to increases in the number of children who require childcare and continued demand for preschool programs.

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, April 2018, Preschool Teachers, on the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/education-training-and-library/preschool-teachers.htm>

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, June 2018, Childcare Workers, on the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/personal-care-and-service/childcare-workers.htm>



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Early Childhood Education Program offers a Short-Term Certificate as a Child Development Associate (CDA) and an Associate of Applied Science degree in Early Childhood Education. The program prepares students to work as child care administrators, teachers, and caregivers in early childhood settings. The CDA Training program is designed for the childcare worker wishing to become a Child Development Associate (CDA).

The CDA Credential is independently awarded by the National Council for Professional Recognition to those demonstrating competence in their work with children in early education and childcare programs.

The Child Development Associate (CDA) focuses on child development methods and strategies to motivate learning in the five developmental areas. Graduates become responsible for the care and education of children up to five years old by creating and maintaining a safe and healthy learning environment, guiding behavior, planning curricula, implementing learning activities, and working cooperatively with staff and parents.

**Selected WCCCD courses will transfer to some colleges and universities to meet requirements for an Elementary Education Certification—Early Childhood Endorsement. (See a counselor or academic advisor for more information)*



WHAT DO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CHILDCARE WORKERS DO?

Childcare workers care for children when parents and other family members are unavailable. They care for children's basic needs, such as bathing and feeding. In addition, some help children prepare for kindergarten, and many help older children with homework.

WHERE DO THEY WORK?

Childcare workers care for children in childcare centers, their own home, or the homes of the children in their care. Preschool teachers work in public and private schools, childcare centers, and charitable organizations. Many work the traditional 10-month school year, but some work the full year.

*For more information about our graduation rates, the median debt of students who have completed this program, and other important gainful employment information, please visit the following link:
<http://www.wcccd.edu/dept/CCTrain/CCTrain.html>*

Recommended Sequence of Courses

Early Childhood Education (CDA):

Short-Term Certificate

CR. No.	COURSE TITLE	CREDITS
SEMESTER 1		
EMT 101	First Aid	2+
ECE 101	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3
ECE 120	Building Family and Community Relationships	3
SEMESTER TOTAL		8+

SEMESTER 2

ECE 104	Methods and Techniques in Child Care: Infant and Toddler Development	3
—OR—		
ECE 106	Methods and Techniques in Child Care: Preschool Child Development	3
ECE 210	Special Populations	3
ECE 111	Child Assessment Techniques	3
ECE 211	CDA Assessment Preparation	1

SEMESTER TOTAL **10+**

CERTIFICATE TOTAL **18+**

Note: Certificate total hours may not include prerequisites.

*+: Student may be eligible for course substitution. See the
Campus Chief Academic Officer for more information.*

Early Childhood Education (CDA):

Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.)

CR. No.	COURSE TITLE	CREDITS
SEMESTER 1		
ECE 101	Introduction to Early Childhood Care	3
EMT 101	First Aid	2
ENG 119	English I	3
HUS 135	Professionalism in Human Services	3
PSY 101	Introductory Psychology	3
SEMESTER TOTAL		14

SEMESTER 2

ENG 120	English II	3
ECE 104	Methods and Techniques in Child Care: Infants and Toddler Development	3
ECE 106	Methods and Techniques in Child Care: Preschool Child Development	3
ECE 111	Child Assessment Techniques	3
SEMESTER TOTAL		12

SEMESTER 3

ENG 285	Children's Literature	3
ECE 120	Building Family and Community Relationships	3
ECE 210	Special Populations	3
PS 101	American Government	3
SEMESTER TOTAL		12

SEMESTER 4

SPH 105	Improving the Speaking Voice	3
SOC 230	Ethnic Minorities	3
ECE 157	Child Care Practicum I	3
ECE 230	Program Management and Supervision	3
SEMESTER TOTAL		12

SEMESTER 5

ECE 211	CDA Assessment Preparation	1
ECE 227	Child Care Practicum II	3
ECE 257	Infant Literature; Birth to 36 months	3
ECE 260	Portfolio-Methods and Techniques	1
Elective:	with Lab	4
SEMESTER TOTAL		12

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

A.A.S. PROGRAM TOTAL **62**

Note: Program total hours may not include prerequisites.

*Students can only select one practicum course per semester
except ECE 104 and ECE 106.*