



*A Course of Study for*

## **EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AS**

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Early Childhood Education majors will be trained to supervise and provide care and learning experiences for infant through eight-year-old children in a variety of early childhood settings. Early Childhood Education professionals adhere to the guidelines as well as the Professional Code of Ethics of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) providing developmentally appropriate learning opportunities for the enhancement of the physical, intellectual, social, emotional and creative domains of young children. The Early Childhood Education major focuses on educational practices that emphasize interpersonal relationships, cultural diversity, child-centered curriculum and the inclusion of children with special needs in all educational opportunities.

The Early Childhood Education Program major follows a natural progression that allows students to move from short to long-term educational goals: preparation for the state Children’s Center Permit, fulfillment of post certificate Professional Development, completion of advanced California Career Ladder courses (*including paired specialization courses as well as the California State Mentor course*), completion of an Associate degree in Early Childhood Education – Career, Associate degree in Early Childhood Intervention assistant, Associate degree in Early Childhood Intervention Teacher, and transfer to a four-year institution.

Possible Early Childhood Education career goals include Early Childhood Education Teacher, Early Education Director, Early Childhood Intervention Assistant, Early Childhood Intervention Teacher, Family Home Child Care Provider, Private ECE Center Owner/Director, K through 12 Teacher, Early Childhood Special Education Teacher, K through 12 Special Education Teacher, Parent Educator, Early Childhood Education Instructor, Marriage Family and Child Counselor, Child-Life Specialist.

The Early Childhood Intervention Assistant program will prepare students for career placements in public and/or private early intervention and educational settings that serve typically and atypically developing young children. Specific jobs and responsibilities may include serving as an early childhood educator with a specialization in working with children with special needs, special education assistant for children birth to eight years of age, a one-to-one aide for a child (e.g., “inclusion facilitator”), classroom aide with expertise in special needs, or as an assistant to the early intervention team for infants birth to three years of age.

**Grid for Early Childhood Education courses at California Community Colleges can be found at:**

[childdevelopment.org/cs/cdtc/print/htdocs/services\\_colleges\\_aligned.htm](http://childdevelopment.org/cs/cdtc/print/htdocs/services_colleges_aligned.htm)

## PROGRAMS OFFERED

- Transfer Preparation
- Early Childhood Education Associate Degree for Transfer (*refer to ECE AS-T sheet*)
- Early Childhood Studies Associate Degree
- Early Intervention Assistant Associate Degree
- Infant/Toddler Teacher Associate Degree
- Early Childhood Associate Teacher Certificate of Achievement
- Early Childhood Studies Certificate of Achievement
- Early Intervention Assistant Certificate of Achievement
- Transitional Kindergarten Certificate of Achievement
- Infant/Toddler Teacher Certificate of Achievement
- Early Childhood Education Core Department Certificate
- Introduction to Early Care and Education Certificate of Completion (Noncredit)

## ASSOCIATE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

An Associate degree is granted upon successful completion of a program of study with a minimum overall grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 (C) and a minimum of **60 degree applicable semester units**, including:

- Completion of the area of emphasis with a grade of C or higher in each course, or with a P if the course was taken on a Pass/No Pass basis, and the P is equal to a C or higher;
- Completion of at least 50% of area of emphasis units at Santa Monica College;
- Completion of one of the following general education patterns: SMC GE, CSU GE, or IGETC;
- Completion of the SMC Global Citizenship graduation requirement.

## CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT REQUIREMENTS

A Certificate of Achievement is granted upon successful completion of a program of study with a minimum overall grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 (C) and a **designated minimum number of units**, including:

- Completion of the area of emphasis with a grade of C or higher in each course, or with a P if the course was taken on a Pass/No Pass basis, and the P is equal to a C or higher;
- Completion of at least 50% of area of emphasis units at Santa Monica College;

## DEPARTMENT CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS

A Department Certificate is granted upon successful completion of a program of study with a **designated minimum number of units**, including:

- Completion of the area of emphasis with a grade of C or higher in each course, or with a P if the course was taken on a Pass/No Pass basis, and the P is equal to a C or higher;
- Completion of at least 50% of area of emphasis units at Santa Monica College;

Note: Department Certificates are not noted on student transcripts. Students must submit a petition to the relevant academic department to be awarded a Department Certificate.

## CATALOG RIGHTS

A student may satisfy the requirements of a degree that were in effect at any time of the student's **continuous** enrollment. Continuous enrollment is defined as enrollment in consecutive Fall and Spring semesters until completion.

**TRANSFER PREPARATION**

Many colleges/universities offer baccalaureate degrees in this field. Students planning to transfer to a four-year college or university should complete the lower-division major requirements and the general education pattern for the specific transfer institution. SMC has articulation agreements with the many UC and CSU campuses, as well as several private and out-of-state institutions.

Exact major requirements for UC and CSU campuses can be found online at [assist.org](http://assist.org).

A listing of private, non-profit California colleges and universities can be found online at [aiccu.edu](http://aiccu.edu). For articulation agreements between SMC and some of these institutions see [smc.edu/articulation](http://smc.edu/articulation).

## EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDIES, ASSOCIATE DEGREE OR CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

*Please note: This is NOT the CSU transfer degree. For details about the Early Childhood Education Associate in Science for Transfer (AS-T) to CSU, please see ECE AS-T sheet.*

This program focuses on educational practices that emphasize interpersonal relationships, cultural diversity, child-centered curriculum and the inclusion of children with special needs in all educational opportunities. The curriculum prepares students to teach or administer programs for young children that include: private early childhood programs, public programs such as school district children centers and Head Start Programs, Head Start, Infant and School Age Programs. The Early Childhood Studies program is geared toward students wishing to prepare for employment in early childhood programs. Emphasis is placed in preparing students for early entry into the workforce. The program provides a sequential path that allows students to obtain the academic requirements for various state permits – Associate Teacher, Assistant Teacher, and Teacher. Students may build on the courses provided by the Early Childhood Studies program to later transfer. However, the AS-T in ECE is the recommended option for students desiring to transfer.

**Program Learning Outcomes:** Upon completion of the program, students will demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and relation dispositions to meet the entry-level requirements for early childhood professionals working in programs regulated by the California Department of Social Services (Title 22). This degree is designed to meet the requirements for a California Child Development Teacher Permit.

### AREA OF EMPHASIS: (30 UNITS)

Required Core Courses: (24 units)

- ECE 2, Principles and Practices of Teaching Young Children (3)
- ECE 11, Child, Family and Community (3)
- ECE 21, Observation and Assessment (4)
- ECE 22, Practicum in Early Childhood Education (5)
- ECE 45, Introduction to Children with Special Needs (3)
- ECE 64, Health, Safety and Nutrition for Young Children (3)
- PSYCH 11, Child Growth and Development (3)

Required Curriculum Courses; Select 2 courses from the following: (6 units)

- ECE 4, Language and Literature for the Young Child (3)
- ECE 5, Math and Science for the Young Child (3)
- ECE 8, Creative Experiences – Art, Music and Movement (3)
- ECE 17, Introduction to Curriculum (3)

## EARLY CHILDHOOD ASSOCIATE TEACHER, CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

Students completing an Early Childhood Associate Teacher Certificate are qualified to teach in a private child development program licensed under Title 22 of the Department of Social Services. It also fulfills the educational requirements for students seeking a California Child Development Permit Matrix at the Associate Teacher Level issued by the California Commission of Teaching Credentialing. Students that desire to work in an early childhood setting are required to minimally complete these core classes.

**Program Learning Outcomes:** Upon completion of the program, students will demonstrate the knowledge, skills and dispositions to meet the entry-level requirements for early childhood professionals working in programs regulated by the California Department of Social Services (Title 22). This certificate is designed to meet the Early Childhood Education coursework, which is one of the two requirements needed to qualify for the California Child Development Associate Teacher permit.

### AREA OF EMPHASIS: (12 UNITS)

Required Courses: (9 units)

ECE 2, Principles and Practices of Teaching Young Children (3)

ECE 11, Child, Family and Community (3)

PSYCH 11, Child Growth and Development (3)

Select 1 additional course from the following courses: (3 units)

ECE 4, Language and Literature for the Young Child (3)

ECE 5, Math and Science for the Young Child (3)

ECE 8, Creative Experiences – Art, Music, and Movement (3)

ECE 17, Introduction to Curriculum (3)

## EARLY INTERVENTION ASSISTANT, ASSOCIATE DEGREE OR CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

The Early Intervention Assistant program will prepare students for career placements in public and/or private early intervention and educational settings that serve typically and atypically developing young children. Specific jobs and responsibilities may include serving as an early childhood educator with a specialization in working with children with exceptionalities, special education assistant for children birth to eight years of age, a one-to-one aide for a child (e.g., "inclusion facilitator"), classroom aide with expertise in special needs, or as an assistant on the early intervention team serving infants birth to three years of age.

Early Childhood Education professionals adhere to the guidelines as well as the Professional Code of Ethics of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) providing developmentally appropriate learning opportunities for the enhancement of the physical, intellectual, social, emotional and creative domains of young children.

**Program Learning Outcomes:** Upon completion of the program, students will demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to work with young children with special needs and with those who may be at risk for developmental delays and disabilities, and with their families. The degree and certificate programs are appropriate for students working as assistants or paraprofessionals in early intervention or early childhood special education. The degree program is also appropriate for students working as early childhood teachers in an inclusive early childhood program licensed by the California Department of Social Services (Title 22). The degree is designed to meet the requirements for the California Child Development Teacher permit, while the certificate is designed to meet two of the three requirements needed to qualify for the California Child Development Teacher permit.

### AREA OF EMPHASIS: (33 UNITS)

#### Required Courses:

- ECE 2, Principles and Practices of Teaching Young Children (3)**
- ECE 11, Child, Family and Community (3)**
- ECE 17, Introduction to Curriculum (3)**
- ECE 21, Observation and Assessment (4)**
- ECE 23, Practicum in Early Intervention (5)**
- ECE 45, Introduction to Children with Special Needs (3)**
- ECE 46, Infant and Toddler Development (3)**
- ECE 49, Curriculum and Strategies for Children with Special Needs (3)**
- ECE 64, Health, Safety and Nutrition for Young Children (3)**
- PSYCH 11, Child Growth and Development (3)**

## INFANT/TODDLER TEACHER, ASSOCIATE DEGREE OR CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

This program prepares students to work with infants/toddlers (0-36 months) enabling the student to assist a teacher in a public infant/toddler program or teach infants/toddlers in a private child care setting. In addition, students will develop skills to create respectful, reciprocal relationships that support, empower, and involve families in their children's learning and development.

Early Childhood Education professionals adhere to the guidelines as well as the Professional Code of Ethics of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) providing developmentally appropriate learning opportunities for the enhancement of the physical, intellectual, social, emotional and creative domains of young children.

**Program Learning Outcomes:** Upon completion of the program, students will demonstrate an understanding of young children and the multiple interacting influences on children's development and learning in order to create environments that are respectful and supportive for all children, especially those 0-36 months old.

Upon completion of the program, students will demonstrate the ability to create respectful, reciprocal relationships that support and empower families, and involve families in their children's learning and development.

### AREA OF EMPHASIS: (30 UNITS)

#### Required Courses:

- PSYCH 11** Child Growth and Development (3)
- ECE 2** Principles and Practices of Teaching Young Children (3)
- ECE 11** Child, Family and Community (3)
- ECE 17** Introduction to Curriculum (3)
- ECE 21** Observation and Assessment (4)
- ECE 22** Practicum in Early Childhood Education (5)
- ECE 32** Communicating With Families (3)
- ECE 46** Infant and Toddler Development (3)
- ECE 71** Infants and Toddler Education and Care (3)

## TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN, CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

The goal of the Transitional Kindergarten certificate is to provide a strand of unit bearing curriculum specifically designed to meet the needs of current Transitional Kindergarten (TK) teachers as well as Multiple Subject credential holders needing the Early Childhood unit requirement to be a TK teacher.

**Program Learning Outcomes:** Upon completion of the program, students will be able to develop / align the transitional kindergarten curriculum to the California Preschool Learning Foundations.

### AREA OF EMPHASIS: (24 UNITS)

#### Required Courses:

- ECE 2, Principles and Practices of Teaching Young Children (3)
- ECE 24, Preschool and Early Primary Development (3)
- ECE 25, Assessment in Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten (3)
- ECE 26, CA Preschool Foundations and Frameworks 1 (3)
- ECE 27, CA Preschool Foundations and Frameworks 2 (3)
- ECE 28, Practicum in Transitional Kindergarten Teaching (3)
- ECE 29, Reflective Practice Seminar (3)
- ECE 30, Strategies for Working with Challenging Behaviors (3)

## EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CORE, DEPARTMENT CERTIFICATE

This Department Certificate mirrors the courses required to obtain the Associate Teacher Permit according to the Child Development Permit Matrix issued by the California Commission of Teaching Credentialing. The 12 core units are the minimum required for employment in a California Community Care Licensed program.

Students who desire to work in an early childhood setting are required to complete—at a minimum—these core courses.

**Program Learning Outcomes:** Upon completion of the program, students will demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to meet the entry-level requirements for early childhood professionals working in programs regulated by the California Department of Social Services (Title 22). This certificate is designed to meet the Early Childhood Education course work, which is one of the two requirements needed to qualify for the California Child Development Associate Teacher permit.

### AREA OF EMPHASIS: (12 UNITS)

Required Courses: (9 units)

- ECE 2, Principles and Practices of Teaching Young Children (3)
- ECE 11, Child, Family and Community (3)
- PSYCH 11, Child Growth and Development (3)

Select 1 additional course from the list below: (3 units)

- ECE 4, Language and Literature for the Young Child (3)
- ECE 5, Math and Science for the Young Child (3)
- ECE 8, Creative Experiences – Art, Music and Movement (3)
- ECE 17, Introduction to Curriculum (3)

**To Teach in a Licensed Early Childhood Center** each course must be completed with a grade of *C* or higher.

Required Core Courses: (12 units)

- ECE 2, Principles and Practices of Teaching Young Children (3)
- ECE 11, Child, Family and Community (3)
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- ECE 5, Math and Science for the Young Child (3)
- or***
- ECE 8, A Creative Experience: Art, Music and Movement (3)
- or***
- ECE 4, Language and Literature for the Young Child (3)
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- PSYCH 11, Child Growth and Development (3)

The State Department of Social Services requires certain educational standards as part of the licensing of child development programs under their jurisdiction. Please refer to the matrix below for state requirements.

*(Please consult with Department for further details).*



## INTRODUCTION TO EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION (NONCREDIT)

This program serves as an introduction to the theoretical and practical knowledge required for working with young children in an early care and education setting. It will help individuals determine their level of interest in the early care and education field, prepare students for credit-bearing coursework in Early Childhood Education, and count toward the professional growth requirement for the renewal of an existing Child Development Permit. The program consists of a sequence of courses that prepares students with the knowledge and skills needed to gain employment as an entry-level Assistant Teacher or Family Child Care Provider. This includes an understanding of child development from birth to age 5, basic principles of early care and education, planning culturally responsive curriculum, communicating with children and families, licensing regulations, health and safety standards, and employment seeking strategies. These courses are not intended as a substitute for any Certificate or Associate in Science – Early Childhood Education or related degrees coursework, which provide state mandated education and fieldwork experiences leading to a Child Development Permit and employment as an early care and education associate teacher or higher. After completing this program, students who wish to pursue a certificate / degree in Early Childhood Education are encouraged to meet with a Counselor to create and Education Plan.

**Program Learning Outcomes:** Upon completion of the program, students will demonstrate an understanding of the foundational knowledge and skills needed to work with children ages 0-5 and their families in an early care and education setting. Students will demonstrate an understanding of basic child development theories and how they can be used to support teachers in planning and preparing culturally responsive and developmentally appropriate classroom and curriculum experiences. In addition, students will demonstrate an understanding of the licensing and workforce requirements for group care and education for young children in California.

### AREA OF EMPHASIS: (0 UNITS)

Child Development Courses:

- ECE NC 901, Introduction to Early Care & Education (0)**
- ECE NC 902, Culturally Relevant Curriculum (0)**
- ECE NC 903, Early Care Licensing & Workforce Readiness (0)**

**CHILD DEVELOPMENT PERMIT MATRIX - WITH ALTERNATIVE QUALIFICATION OPTIONS**

PERMIT TITLE	EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS (Option 1 for all permits)	EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT (Applies to Option 1 Only)	ALTERNATIVE QUALIFICATIONS (with option numbers included)	AUTHORIZATION	FIVE YEAR RENEWAL
<b>ASSISTANT (OPTIONAL)</b>	<b>Option 1:</b> 6 units of Early Childhood Education (ECE) <i>or</i> Child Development (CD)	None	<b>Option 2:</b> Accredited HERO Program (including ROP)	Authorizes the holder to care for and assist in the development and instruction of children in a child care and development program under the supervision of an Associate Teacher, Teacher, Master Teacher, Site Supervisor or Program Director.	105 hours of professional growth*****
<b>ASSOCIATE TEACHER</b>	<b>Option 1:</b> 12 units of ECE/CD including core courses**	50 days of 3+ hours per day within 2 years	<b>Option 2:</b> Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential	Authorizes the holder to provide service in the care, development, and instruction of children in a child care and development program, and supervise an Assistant and an aide.	Must complete 15 additional units toward a Teacher Permit. Must meet Teacher requirements within 10 years.
<b>TEACHER</b>	<b>Option 1:</b> 24 units ECE/CD including core courses**, <u>plus</u> 16 general education units*	175 days of 3+ hours per day within 4 years	<b>Option 2:</b> Associate degree or higher in ECE/CD or related field with 3 units supervised field experience in ECE/CD setting	Authorizes the holder to provide service in the care, development and instruction of children in a child care and development program, and supervise an Associate Teacher, Assistant and an aide.	105 hours of professional growth*****
<b>MASTER TEACHER</b>	<b>Option 1:</b> 24 units ECE/CD including core courses**, <u>plus</u> 16 GE units*, <u>plus</u> 6 specialization units, <u>plus</u> 2 adult supervision units	350 days of 3+ hours per day within 4 years	<b>Option 2:</b> BA or higher (does not have to be in ECE/CD) with 12 units of ECE/CD, <u>plus</u> 3 units of supervised field experience in ECE/CD setting	Authorizes the holder to provide service in the care, development and instruction of children in a child care and development program, and supervise a Teacher, Associate Teacher, Assistant and an aide. The permit also authorizes the holder to serve as a coordinator of curriculum and staff development.	105 hours of professional growth*****
<b>SITE SUPERVISOR</b>	<b>Option 1:</b> Associate Degree (or 60 units) which includes: 24 ECE/CD units with core courses**, <u>plus</u> 6 administration units, <u>plus</u> 2 adult supervision units	350 days of 3+ hours per day within 4 years including at least 100 days of supervising adults	<b>Option 2:</b> BA or higher (does not have to be in ECE/CD) with 12 units of ECE/CD, <u>plus</u> 3 units supervised field experience in ECE/CD setting; <i>or</i> <b>Option 3:</b> Admin. Credential*** with 12 units of ECE/CD, <u>plus</u> 3 units supervised field experience in ECE/CD setting; <i>or</i> <b>Option 4:</b> Teaching credential**** with 12 units of ECE/CD, <u>plus</u> 3 units supervised field experience in ECE/CD settings	Authorizes the holder to supervise a child care and development operating as a single site; provide service in the care, development, and instruction of children in a child care and development program; and serve as a coordinator of curriculum and staff development.	105 hours of professional growth*****
<b>PROGRAM DIRECTOR</b>	<b>Option 1:</b> BA or higher (does not have to be in ECE/ED) including: 24 ECE/CD units with core courses**, <u>plus</u> 6 administration units, <u>plus</u> 2 adult supervision units	One year of Site Supervisor experience	<b>Option 2:</b> Admin. credential*** with 12 units of ECE/CD, <u>plus</u> 3 units supervised field experience in ECE/CD setting; <i>or</i> <b>Option 3:</b> Teaching credential*** with 12 units of ECE/CD, <u>plus</u> 3 units supervised field experience in ECE/CD setting, plus 6 units administration; <i>or</i> <b>Option 4:</b> Master's Degree in ECE/CD or Child/Human Development	Authorizes the holder to supervise a child care and development program operating in a single site or multiple sites; provide service in the care, development, and instruction of children in a child care and development program; and serve as coordinator of curriculum and staff development.	105 hours of professional growth*****

**NOTE: All unit requirements listed above are semester units. All course work must be completed with a grade of C or better from a regionally accredited college. Spanish translation is available.**  
 \*One course in each of four general education categories, which are degree applicable: English/Language Arts; Math or Science; Social Science; Humanities and/or Fine Arts.  
 \*\*Core courses include child/human growth and development, Child/Family/Community or Child and Family Relations; and Programs/Curriculum. You must have a minimum of three semester units or four quarter units in each of the core areas.  
 \*\*\*Holders of the Administrative Services Credential may serve as a Site Supervisor or Program Director.  
 \*\*\*\*A valid Multiple Subject or a Single Subject in Home Economics.  
 \*\*\*\*\*Professional growth hours must be completed under the guidance of a Professional Growth Advisor. Call (209) 572-6080 for assistance in locating an advisor.

This matrix was prepared by the Child Development Training Consortium. To obtain a permit application, visit our website at: [www.childdevelopment.org](http://www.childdevelopment.org) or call (209) 572-6080.