

Early Childhood Development

ONETonline.org SOC Code: 39-9011.00

Associate in Applied Science

61 Semester Hours^

The Early Childhood Development Program is designed to give students an understanding of intellectual, physical, social, and emotional principles critical to providing quality care to children birth to five years of age. The program provides practical experience working with children in a variety of settings – child care facilities, in-home services, Head Start programs, and pre-school programs. Students may choose courses for direct care positions such as teachers and classroom assistants or they may select the entrepreneurial emphasis for child care center owners, administrators and directors. This career based program is designed for students desiring to enter the job market as child care providers, or owner/operators of child care services.

Upon successful completion of the Early Childhood Development program, the graduate will be able to:

- Respond to the health and safety needs of children
- Assess children's growth and development
- Plan and implement children's routine within the child-care setting
- Plan and organize a learning environment for young children
- Arrange and manage learning centers
- Identify and implement positive discipline strategies that can be utilized by child care workers in the child care setting
- Develop and implement age-appropriate activities that provide learning through the child's level of communication, interest, and imagination
- Plan developmentally appropriate curriculum for young children
- Identify and work with children with special needs within a variety of child care settings
- Demonstrate appropriate responses to nurture and develop positive self-esteem in pre-school age children
- Communicate with parents and families
- Participate in life-long learning and professional development
- Participate in extracurricular center activities outside the classroom setting, such as planning family events, participating in program and strategic planning
- Maintain records according to state and federal guidelines

Additionally, graduates completing the entrepreneurial emphasis will apply business management skills to planning and establishing businesses that provide early childhood education and child care.

As required through the West Virginia State licensing requirements for child care facilities and programs, students must also obtain the following upon enrollment in the Early Childhood Development Program:

- Hepatitis B Shots
- Food Handler's Card
- Tine Test
- Self-Disclosure Statement
- West Virginia State Police Criminal Identification Bureau (CIB) Report

This program is designed to graduate well-trained child care providers as teachers for employment in child care centers as well as self-employed, in-home care providers. Additionally, the program is designed to provide continuing education opportunities for child care providers with recognized child care provider credentials Apprenticeship for Child Development Specialist (ACDS) Program by awarding credit for college level learning acquired through existing credentialing programs. The articulated credit is applied toward the completion of the Associate in Applied Science in Occupational Specialist (ACDS) degree allowing these students the opportunity to advance their professional credentials. The program also provides approved coursework toward the Apprenticeship for Child Development Specialist (ACDS) Program as a collaborative project sponsored by the United States

Department of Labor, West Virginia Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training, the West Virginia Department of Education, child-care centers, Head Start programs, and county vocational schools in several locations in West Virginia. Students interested in these two options should see their advisor for details.

Program implementation: Part-time evening (contact an advisor for recommended course sequencing)

Recommended Course Sequence – Early Childhood Development, Associate in Applied Science

First Year–Fall Semester				First Year–Spring Semester			
Dept.		Course Title	Sem. Hrs.	Dept.		Course Title	Sem. Hrs.
CIS	114	Introduction to Computer Applications and Concepts	3	EDF	210	Infants & Toddlers Seminar	3
EDF	115	Early Childhood Health, Safety, & Nutrition	3	EDF	217	Human Development and Learning	3
EDF	212	Principles & Theories of Early Childhood Programs	3	PSY	213	Guiding the Behavior of Children	3
ENL	101	English Composition I	3	SPH	101	Speech Fundamentals	3
PSY	200	General Psychology	3	Elective		Math Elective (MTH 121 or higher)	3
Total Semester Hours			15	Total Semester Hours			15
Second Year–Fall Semester				Second Year–Spring Semester			
Dept.		Course Title	Sem. Hrs.	Dept.		Course Title	Sem. Hrs.
EDF	211	Early Childhood Seminar	3	EDF	276	Early Childhood Capstone	3
EDF	221	Administration of Early Childhood Education	3	EDF	212	Children & Families	3
EDF	224	Methods & Materials for Early Childhood Programs	3	SSC	147	Understanding Human Diversity	3
Elective		Emphasis Elective	3	Elective		Lab Science Elective	4
Elective		Emphasis Elective	3	Elective		Emphasis Elective	3
Total Semester Hours			15	Total Semester Hours			16

Early Childhood Development: Direct Care Emphasis

Dept.		Course Title	Sem. Hrs.
EDF	203	Children’s Literature	3
MUS	103	Preschool Music, Movement and Art	3
PSY	219	The Exceptional Child	3
Total Semester Hours			9

^Cost of Attendance is available at:
www.easternwv.edu/documents/financial-aid/cost-attendance

Early Childhood Development: Entrepreneurial Emphasis

Dept.		Course Title	Sem. Hrs.
ACC	120	Principles of Accounting I	3
MGT	251	Human Resource Management	3
MKT	260	Principles of Marketing	3
Total Semester Hours			9

Median loan debt upon completion: N/A

Financial Aid is available for those who qualify

See Gainful Employment Disclosure in Eastern’s 2019-2020 Catalog (page 26) for more information.