

# Early Childhood Education

## Degree Type

Associate in Science

Early Childhood employment opportunities in New Hampshire remain excellent and continue to grow. Sixty-seven percent of children under the age of six in New Hampshire receive some form of childcare provided by persons other than their parents. Many of these young children spend eight to eleven hours each day in childcare. Because of a shortage of trained directors, teachers, and workers, many childcare programs strive but are unable to meet the developmental needs of children in their care.

The Early Childhood Education Associate in Science Degree program provides theoretical and practical experiences for preparation to work as an Early Childhood Education Director, responsible for the care and education of young children, management of personnel, finances, and facilities of an early childhood education program. The certificate prepares graduates to become childcare teachers.

The Early Childhood Education program seeks students who have a strong desire to nurture and care. To ensure that the Early Childhood Education Associate in Science applicant chooses the appropriate career, candidates are encouraged to meet with the program coordinator and the college counselor.

Successful completion of this program satisfies partial requirements of the New Hampshire Childcare Bureau of Licensing requirements for certification as a childcare director or teacher. Students seeking certification must meet all requirements of the NH Childcare Bureau of Licensing. This program also provides ideal preparation for those students wishing to continue their education on the baccalaureate level.

The New Hampshire Bureau of Childcare Standards and Licensing may restrict certification of candidates who have been involved in civil or criminal action. Contact the New Hampshire Bureau of Childcare Standards and Licensing for questions regarding certification restrictions

## Students who complete the program will

- demonstrate knowledge of theories and developmentally appropriate practices (DAP) to foster child development and knowledge.
- apply understanding and application of NAEYC Standards
- demonstrate knowledge of advancing child development and learning
- create healthy, considerate, caring, and inspiring learning conditions for young children
- support and engage children's families, and their community through the development of positive relationships
- recognize the diversity of family dynamics and apply cultural competency in meeting the needs of their families / communities.
- justify and integrate a variety of assessments, observations and documentation to assist in curriculum planning and guidance for positive behaviors.
- continue to use reflective practices and resources to develop as a professional
- demonstrate ethical practices and integrity, in tandem with a collegial and collaborative disposition towards coworkers, families and the community.

## First Year

### Fall Semester

Item #	Title	Class Hours	Lab Hours	Credits
ECE121L	Growth and Development of the Young Child	3	0	3
ECE123L	Foundations of Early Childhood Education	3	0	3
ENGL100L	English Composition	4	0	4
INDL100L	College Essentials	1	0	1
ECE124L	Health, Safety, and Nutrition in Early Childhood Education	3	0	3
<b>Sub-Total Credits</b>		<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>

### Spring Semester

Item #	Title	Class Hours	Lab Hours	Credits
ECE216L	Teaching Young Children with Exceptionalities	3	0	3
ECE224L	Teaching STEAM	3	0	3
ECE231L	Language and Literacy Development in Early Childhood	3	0	3
	PSYC125L or PSYC126L	3	0	3
	Mathematics Elective (4 credit)	4	0	4
<b>Sub-Total Credits</b>		<b>16</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16</b>

## Second Year

### Fall Semester

Item #	Title	Class Hours	Lab Hours	Credits
ECE210L	Positive Behavior Guidance in ECE	3	0	3
ECE126L	Infant/Toddler Development	3	0	3
ECE165L	Practicum I - Observation, Assessment, and Documentation	1	6	3
SOSC235L	Children, Youth and Families	3	0	3
	Open Elective	3	0	3
<b>Sub-Total Credits</b>		<b>13</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>15</b>

### Spring Semester

Item #	Title	Class Hours	Lab Hours	Credits
ECE265L	Practicum II - Exploring Teaching, Curriculum Implantation	1	9	4
ECE230L	Developing and Administering a Child Care and Education Program	3	0	3
	Science Elective (3 credits)	3	0	3
	Open Elective	3	0	3
	Humanities Elective or PHIL227L	3	0	3
<b>Sub-Total Credits</b>		<b>13</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>				<b>61</b>