The Early Childhood Education program is designed to provide experiences in educational theory in the areas of social, emotional, cognitive, physical/motor and creative development for children from birth through age eight. Courses also are available for caregivers of school age children, ages 5 through 14.

Core Competencies for Early Childhood Education

**State Certificates**
- State Initial ECE Certificate of Recognition: 12 Credits
- State Short ECE Certificate of Specialization: Initial Certificate PLUS one of the following:
  - ECE General Certificate: 20 Credits
  - EC Infant Toddler: 20 Credits
  - School-Age Care: 20 Credits
  - Family Child Care: 20 Credits
  - Administration: 20 Credits
- ECE State Credential: Certificate of Proficiency: 47 Credits

**Associate’s Degrees**
- Early Childhood Education: Associate in Technical Arts (ATA): 90 Credits
- Early Childhood Education: Associate in Applied Science-Transfer (AAS-T): 90 Credits
- Early Childhood Education: Associate in Arts (AA): 92 Credits

**Special Program Requirements**
- Cleared Portable Background Check
- TB Test
- First Aid Card
- CPR Card
- Food Handler’s Card

**Job Outlook and Wages**
- Head Start/ECEAP Assistant Teacher
- Family Child Care Provider
- Child Care Aide

**State Certificates**
- State Initial ECE Certificate of Recognition: 12 Credits
- State Short ECE Certificate of Specialization: Initial Certificate PLUS one of the following:
  - ECE General Certificate: 20 Credits
  - EC Infant Toddler: 20 Credits
  - School-Age Care: 20 Credits
  - Family Child Care: 20 Credits
  - Administration: 20 Credits
- ECE State Credential: Certificate of Proficiency: 47 Credits

**Job Outlook and Wages**
- Child Care Program Director or Supervisor
- Child Care Provider
- Private Preschool Teacher
- Education Administrators, Preschool & Childcare Center/Program

**Pathways to Bachelor’s Degrees**
- Articulated: The Evergreen State College
- Related: Washington State University

**Entrance Considerations**
- Admissions
- Enrollment Prep
- Active Duty Military
- Veterans
- High School Options
- Running Start
- Tech Prep
- IB/AP
- Fund Your Education
- Financial Aid
- Veteran Benefits
- Active Duty & Family
- BFET
- Worker Retraining
- Workfirst

**Employment Assistance**
Olympic College Career Center
Online Search:
Is this Career Field right for me?

**Please send comments or corrections to:**
Roadmap Helpdesk
Non-Discrimination Policy: It is the policy of Washington’s community and technical colleges to provide equal opportunity in education and employment regardless of race, ethnicity, creed, color, national origin, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, age, religion, genetic information, gender identity, veteran status or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability.

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