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
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  - 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

**PATHWAYS TO BACHELOR’S DEGREES**
- Articulated
  - The Evergreen State College
- Related
  - Washington State University

**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

**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?

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- Head Start Lead Teacher
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