

Early Childhood Education

Early Childhood Education is a two-year Diploma program that is designed to prepare students to work in a variety of child care settings. Course work focuses on understanding child development, the child in the family and community, and the developing role of the student as an early childhood educator. Students complete specialized training in several areas of early childhood education, including child development, creative activities, inclusion, health and nutrition. In addition, students avail of field placements at the on-campus demonstration child care centres and at external agencies offering child care services.

OBJECTIVES

1. To provide students with a quality early childhood education program consistent with best practices in the field and legislative requirements/provincial standards in Newfoundland and Labrador.
2. To provide students with knowledge of child growth and development to support their work with children from birth to age 12 (Infants: 0-2 years; Toddlers: 2-3 years; Preschool: 3-5 years; and School Age: 5-12 years).
3. To provide students with the knowledge that will enable them to plan developmentally appropriate programs for children.
4. To develop students' skills in analyzing and interpreting systematic observations of children's development as the basis for planning for all children.
5. To develop students' knowledge and skills to design both indoor and outside play environments for children.
6. To assist students in building supportive partnerships within the Early Childhood Education field, early learning environments, and the broader community.

CURRICULUM

1. Specialized Training: Early Childhood Education (e.g. child observation, child development, curriculum, guidance, creative activities, health, nutrition, family studies, and inclusion).
2. Field Placement: Students will complete 5 field placements during the program in a variety of child care settings. Provincial standards require students to complete a minimum of 720 field placement hours throughout their program.
3. General Education: Communications (oral and written), human relations.

The Graduate Certification: The graduate is awarded a Diploma of Applied Arts in Early Childhood Education. This certifies successful completion of two years of post-secondary education, combining theory and practical experience in the care, education, and guidance of children. Completion of this program is one of the steps towards provincial Child Care Services Certification. Currently, the ECE diploma is awarded Level II Certification for infant, preschool and school-age children.

Major Areas of Emphasis: Throughout the program, emphasis will be placed on the social, emotional, cognitive, and physical development of children, supporting that development, and interacting with families. This will be accomplished through enrichment of communication skills, observations and interactions in individual and group settings, and the study of current theories of and practices in child development.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The graduate from this program will be prepared for employment with organizations caring for children or self-employment providing child care and, with experience, be

able to develop programs for and/or supervise in child care services in communities throughout the province.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

1. High School

Provincial High School Graduation Certificate with a 60% average in nine level 3000 credits or equivalent

2. Comprehensive Arts and Science (CAS) Transition

Comprehensive Arts and Science (Transition) Certificate

3. Adult Basic Education (ABE)

Adult Basic Education (Level III) Graduation with General College Profile (or Business-Related College Profile or Degree and Technical Profile) with an average pass mark of 60%

4. Mature Student Status

Applicants who do not meet the educational prerequisites for this program, are 19 years of age or older, and have been out of school for at least one year may be considered on an individual basis under the Mature Student Clause

AND

Documentation required:

1. a current record of immunizations
2. a clear Certificate of Conduct, including the "vulnerable sector" category, from the RNC or RCMP, to include all jurisdictions in which the applicant has lived in the past 10 years, and
3. a satisfactory Child Protection Records Check.

The Certificate of Conduct and the Child Protection Records Check:

- Must be dated no more than three months prior to the first scheduled day of classes for the program;
- Is valid for a period of three years, unless the student is absent from the program for six months or more.

Where an applicant cannot provide a clear Certificate of Conduct, the applicant may contact the Provincial Director of Child Care Services requesting a review. Such a review would be based on a determination that the offence is not one that could reasonably be considered to pose a risk to children. The applicant should send the Certificate of Conduct and a request for a review to: Provincial Director of Child Care Services, Department of Child, Youth and Family Services, P. O. Box 8700, 28 Pippy Place, St. John's, NL A1B 3X4.

Students must possess a valid First Aid Certificate to be eligible for a Diploma of Applied Arts in the Early Childhood Education Program.

FIELD PLACEMENT

Students complete five field placements during the program. Course hours during the remaining weeks of each semester in which a field placement occurs will be adjusted accordingly.



DIPLOMA

- Two years
- September start
- Corner Brook and Prince Philip Drive Campuses

COURSES

CODE	TITLE	Hrs/wk				
Semester 1				Cr	Le	La
EE1170	Curriculum I	4	4	0		
EE1150	Child Observation	3	3	1		
EE1160	Child Development I	3	3	0		
EE1270	Foundations of Positive Behaviour Guidance	3	3	0		
EE1450	Creative Activities I - Art	3	2	2		
FH1320	Health, Safety & Wellness	4	4	0		
FW1150	Introduction to Field Placement	2	1	3		

Forty hours of Field Placement occur during the semester (10 hours lecture; 30 hours placement)

Semester 2				Cr	Le	La
EE1161	Child Development II	4	4	0		
EE1171	Curriculum II	4	4	0		
EE1300	Family Studies I	3	3	0		
EE1451	Creative Activities II - Literature	3	3	1		
EE1720	Professional Development	2	2	0		
CM2100	Workplace Correspondence	3	3	0		
FW1310	Field Placement	5	1	4 wks		

Four weeks of Field Placement occur at the beginning of the semester; Field Placement lecture in the remaining 11 wks. Other courses hours will be adjusted to reflect 11 weeks of the semester.

Semester 3 (Interession)				Cr	Le	La
EE1301	Family Studies II	3	3	0		
EE1840	Understanding Child Maltreatment	1	1	0		
FW1311	Field Placement II	4	1	4 wks		

Four weeks of Field Placement occur at the beginning of the semester; Field Placement lecture in the remaining 3 wks. Other courses hours will be adjusted to reflect 3 weeks of the semester.

The Course and Lab hours per week are based on a 15 week semester. In interession, the Course and Lab hours will be adjusted to reflect the shorter semester length. Refer to course outline.

Semester 4				Cr	Le	La
EE2270	Curriculum III	4	4	0		
EE1280	Infant & Toddler Care	3	3	1		
EE1800	Inclusion I	3	3	0		
EE2160	Child Development III	3	3	1		
EE2450	Creative Activities III - Music	1	1	1		
FH1140	Childhood Nutrition	3	2	2		
FW2310	Field Placement III	5	1	4 wks		

Four weeks of Field Placement occur at the end of the semester; Field Placement lecture in the first 11 wks. Other courses hours will be adjusted to reflect 11 weeks of the semester.

Semester 5				Cr	Le	La
EE1801	Inclusion II	3	3	0		
EE2255	Advanced Behaviour Guidance Strategies	3	3	1		
EE2260	Introduction to Child Care Administration	3	2	2		
EE2500	School-Age Development and Care	4	4	0		
HR1300	Communications and Human Relations I	2	2	0		
FW2311	Field Placement IV	6	1	5 wks		

Five weeks of Field Placement occur at the end of the semester; Field Placement lecture in the first 10 wks. Other courses hours will be adjusted to reflect 10 weeks of the semester.

Semester 6 (Interession)				Cr	Le	La
EE2451	Creative Activities IV - Movement	2	1	2		
EE2360	Adult Development	3	3	0		
EE2310	Family Studies III	3	3	0		

The Course and Lab hours per week are based on a 15 week semester. In interession, the Course and Lab hours will be adjusted to reflect the shorter semester length. Refer to course outline.