

# EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND FAMILY STUDIES: CHILD DEVELOPMENT - CERTIFICATE

## Overview

See Department website and program contacts here (<https://www.mhcc.edu/education-options/degrees-certificates/early-childhood-education-family-studies/index/>)

The **Early Childhood Education and Family Services: Child Development certificate** is designed for students seeking careers working with young children and families in early learning settings. The curriculum introduces child development knowledge and practical teaching skills that prepare students for employment in early childhood environments.

Coursework focuses on **childhood ages and stages, guidance, and high-quality teaching practices**. Students develop practical skills that support care and learning for children from birth through age five.

Students should be prepared to demonstrate the professionalism, emotional stability, and stamina needed for work in this field. Students with questions about program expectations are encouraged to consult the program advisor.

Students are encouraged to work with an advisor (<https://www.mhcc.edu/student-resources/academic-advising/>) to ensure appropriate course selection and program planning based on their educational background and career goals.

### Refer to the tabs above for additional information about:

- **Education Plan** – provides a sample term-by-term sequence of courses
- **Career Info** – includes information on potential occupations, employment trends, and earnings

## Program Learning Objectives

At the completion of this program, students should be able to:

- Design learning environments to support children's development and learning in all domains
- Implement Developmentally Appropriate Practices and all relevant guidelines
- Articulate the importance of effective observation, documentation, and assessment of children's development
- Develop positive relationships with families, colleagues, and community members
- Apply content knowledge and inquiry tools to construct meaningful curriculum
- Demonstrate an exemplary work ethic and uphold the standards of the early childhood profession

## Education Plan

This sample Education Plan illustrates one possible course sequence. Students should consult an advisor (<https://www.mhcc.edu/student-resources/academic-advising/>) to create a personalized plan.

The Child Development Career Pathway Certificate program is not financial aid eligible. However, the related degree program, Early Childhood Education and Family Studies, is aid eligible.

Students must earn a grade of "C" or higher in all program (ECE) courses.

First Quarter		
Fall		Credits
ECE140	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3
ECE170	Health, Safety and Nutrition	3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>6</b>
Second Quarter		
Winter		
ECE144	Observation Techniques	2
ECE145	Positive Guidance	3
ECE166	Seminar - Beginning	1
WE280CDC1	Co-op Education - Beginning - Early Childhood Education 1	3
<b>Credits</b>		<b>9</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>15</b>

## Career Information

Explore potential careers related to this program, including typical job roles, employment trends, and projected growth. This information can help you better understand how your education may align with future career opportunities.