

EDUCATION—EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Credentials

Child Development Associate (CDA) skills certificate	17 cr.
Early Childhood Education certificate	27 cr.
Early Childhood Education AAS degree	62-67 cr.

Major Description

To work effectively with children, early childhood educators must be sensitive to and understand the developmental stages of children. This curriculum contains theoretical and practical experiences to prepare students to work in early childhood programs in a variety of settings. The required field experiences expose students to best practices in early childhood education. Students also have the option of transferring to a bachelor's degree program at a four-year institution.

Child Development Associate (CDA) Skills Certificate

Schoolcraft program code # CRT.00315

The Child Development Associate (CDA) program represents a national effort to credential qualified early childhood educators working with children from birth to age five. At Schoolcraft College, CDA preparation consists of meeting the objectives and requirements of five courses in the early childhood curriculum that address the Competency Goals in 13 Functional Areas identified by the CDA Professional Preparation program. Candidates must also document 480 hours of professional experience working with children within the last three years, prepare a professional resource file and be formally observed working with children. For more information on the CDA Credential visit www.cdacouncil.org.

Students who satisfactorily complete the program requirements qualify for a certificate of program completion. The following are the required courses necessary to meet CDA competencies.

SAMPLE SCHEDULE OF COURSES

First Year—Fall Semester

First Year—Winter Semester

Course	Description	Credits	Course	Description	Credits
ECE 100	Foundations of Early Childhood Education	2	ECE	<i>Select one</i>	5
ECE 110	Child Development	3	ECE 130*	Preschool Education with Field Experiences	
ECE 120	Creative Activities	3	ECE 140*	Infant and Toddler Education with Field Experiences	
	Total Credits	8	ECE 240	Administration of Early Childhood Programs	3
			ECE 160	Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential Assessment Preparation	1
				Total Credits	9

PROGRAM TOTAL 17 CREDITS

To earn the CDA, candidates may then apply to the Council for Early Childhood Professional Recognition. The Council charges an application fee, assigns a representative to assess the candidate and awards this national credential.

** Choose course depending upon the type of CDA Credentials the student is pursuing. Check with the Early Childhood Education and Special Education Department for more information. Students must successfully pass courses with field experiences with a grade of a 2.5 in order to be eligible to earn credit for the course. Students that do not pass the course at the second attempt may not remain in the program.*

Students in the Early Childhood Education program must adhere to the Code of Ethics of the National Association for the Education of Young Children and the Council for Exceptional Children along with the Early Childhood Education and Special Education Department policies. Early Childhood Education and Special Education Department policies are provided from the department to the student in their field experience courses.

Not all courses are offered each semester. Students should work with an academic advisor or counselor to develop a schedule that will work for them.

Students planning to transfer should check the transfer institution's requirements/guides or discuss their options with an academic advisor or counselor. Number of credits may vary depending on the course selection.

Early Childhood Education Certificate

Schoolcraft program code # 1YC.00031

The Early Childhood Education Certificate program provides an educational foundation for understanding children's development and children's needs. The program emphasizes helping students acquire the knowledge and skills needed to plan developmentally appropriate learning environments, nurturing strategies and activities for children which promote their physical, intellectual, social and emotional growth and well-being.

Students who satisfactorily complete the program requirements qualify for a certificate of program completion.

Early Childhood Education Certificate (continued)

SAMPLE SCHEDULE OF COURSES

First Year—Fall Semester

ECE 100	Foundations of Early Childhood Education	2
ECE 110	Child Development	3
ECE 120	Creative Activities	3
ECE 180	Child and Family Welfare Services	3
	Total Credits	11

First Year—Winter Semester

ECE 130	Preschool Education with Field Experiences	5
ECE 230	Classroom Behavior—Understanding Social Competence	3
	Total Credits	8

First Year—Spring Session

ECE 140	Infant and Toddler Education with Field Experiences	5
ECE 240	Administration of Early Childhood Programs	3
	Total Credits	8

PROGRAM TOTAL 27 CREDITS

Students in the Early Childhood Education program must adhere to the Code of Ethics of the National Association for the Education of Young Children and the Council for Exceptional Children along with the Early Childhood and Special Education department policies. Prior to the start of field placement hours in ECE 130 and ECE 140 students must present to their instructor the following:

- Michigan Department of Human Services Central Registry Clearance. The Michigan's Central Registry is a list of people who committed child abuse or neglect; as defined by The Child Protection Law.
- Michigan background check based upon requirements from the State of Michigan for Child Care Licensing. Schoolcraft College will complete the I-CHAT background check for each student.
- A current (within one year of their first day of their field experience) TB test with negative results.
- Students who do not pass clearance by the Michigan Department of Human Services, the background check and/or the TB required test are not permitted in programs in the Early Childhood and Special Education Department.

Students must successfully pass courses with field experiences with a grade of a 2.5 in order to be eligible to earn credit for the course. Students who do not pass the course at the second attempt may not remain in the program.

Not all courses are offered each semester. Students should work with an academic advisor or counselor to develop a schedule that will work for them.

Students planning to transfer should check the transfer institution's requirements/guides or discuss their options with an academic advisor or counselor. Number of credits may vary depending on the course selection.

Early Childhood Education AAS Degree

Schoolcraft program code # AAS.00020

To work effectively with children, early childhood educators must be sensitive to and understand the developmental stages of children. This curriculum contains theoretical and practical experiences to prepare students to work in early childhood programs in a variety of settings. The required field experiences expose students to best practices in early childhood education.

Students who satisfactorily complete all college and program requirements qualify for an Associate in Applied Science degree.

SAMPLE SCHEDULE OF COURSES

First Year—Fall Semester

ECE 100	Foundations of Early Childhood Education	2
ECE 110	Child Development	3
ECE 120	Creative Activities	3
ENG 101	English Composition 1	3
Humanities	<i>Select General Education Humanities Course</i>	3-4
	Any World Language (recommended)	
COMA 103	Fundamentals of Speech	
ENG 203	Children's Literature	
	Total Credits	14-15

First Year—Winter Semester

ECE 130	Preschool Education with Field Experiences	5
ECE 150	Before and After School Programming for Children	3
ECE 170	Curriculum, Assessment and Technology	3
SPE 220	Early Childhood Special Education	3
PSYCH 153	Human Relations	3
	Total Credits	17

Second Year—Fall Semester

ECE 140	Infant and Toddler Education with Field Experiences	5
ECE 180	Child and Family Welfare Services	3
ECE 230	Classroom Behavior—Understanding Social Competence	3
ECE 240	Administration of Early Childhood Programs	3
ENG 102	English Composition 2	3
	Total Credits	17

Second Year—Winter Semester

ECE 260	Early Childhood Education Advanced Practical Experiences	4
ECE 250	Literacy and Numerical Thinking	3
ECE 280	Emerging Educator	1
Mathematics	<i>Select General Education Mathematics Course</i>	3-5
Science	<i>Select General Education Science Course</i>	3-5
	Total Credits	14-18

PROGRAM TOTAL 62-67 CREDITS

Early Childhood Education AAS Degree (continued)

Students in the Early Childhood Education program must adhere to the Code of Ethics of the National Association for the Education of Young Children and the Council for Exceptional Children along with the Early Childhood Education and Special Education Department policies. For field experience courses, students must earn a minimum grade of 2.5 to pass the course. Students have only two attempts at completing ECE 130, ECE 140 and ECE 260. Students who are not successful with the second attempt are not eligible to remain in the program. Early Childhood Education and Special Education Department policies are provided to the student in their field experience courses.

The Children's Center at Schoolcraft College is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC—the foremost authority in the care of children, birth through age eight). The accreditation earned is held by only 3 percent of centers in Michigan and 7 percent of centers in the United States. The Children's Center is our lab school for some of the early childhood courses with field experiences and observations. For more information about accreditation please contact: National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) 1313 L. Street N.W., Suite 500, Washington, DC 2005-4101 1-800-424-2460
www.naeyc.org/accreditation

Not all courses are offered each semester. Students should work with an academic advisor or counselor to develop a schedule that will work for them.

Students planning to transfer should check the transfer institution's requirements/guides or discuss their options with an academic advisor or counselor. Number of credits may vary depending on the course selection.