



Degree Guide:

Early Childhood Education, Associate in Applied Science-Transfer (AAS-T) Degree

Program

[Early Childhood Education \(ECED/ECED&\)](#)

Degree Type

Professional Technical Degree

Offered Online

Yes

Program Coordinator

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Program Description

Course work in the Early Childhood Education (ECE) program combines theory and practical experience for work with young children and their families. Courses include child development, child behavior and guidance, planning early childhood learning environments, planning developmentally appropriate curriculum, and working with families. Practicum courses provide opportunities to apply theoretical knowledge to planning and presenting curriculum, and for working with children and staff in early childhood settings. Successful completion of this program leads to an Early Childhood Education, Associate in Applied Science-Transfer (AAS-T) degree. Prospective ECE students should be aware of the fact that they will have to complete a background check.

As of fall 2019, this program requires students to achieve a grade of 2.0 or above in all ECED and EDUC classes to progress through and complete the program.

Program Length: 6 Quarters

Program Code: CCMECAAS

Career Opportunities and Earnings

A variety of child care, preschool, school district, recreational, and community programs offer career opportunities in early childhood education. Also, opportunities are increasing for family support paraprofessionals in human service and mental health agencies. With additional experience, training, and education, graduates may pursue a variety of career pathways in education and administration. The demand for trained early childhood educators is increasing and should remain strong over the next several years.

- Director of childcare center
- Child care specialists
- Curriculum program managers
- Head Start/ECEAP preschool teachers/home visitors/family service advocates and school-age care staff
- Paraprofessional educators in elementary schools
- Teachers in childcare centers
- Teacher's assistant

For current employment and wage estimates, please visit and search for the relevant occupational term: [bls.gov/oes](https://www.bls.gov/oes).

Program Outcomes



When this program is completed, the student will be able to:

- Create and maintain a developmentally appropriate safe, healthy learning environment for children.
- Support the growth, development and diverse individual needs of each child.
- Plan, provide and evaluate developmentally appropriate programming and curriculum to meet diverse group needs.
- Provide support to meet the diverse needs of families and build family partnerships.
- Build community partnerships and advocate for early learning and child care issues.
- Participate in on-going professional development and contribute to a professional team environment.

Special Features

- Contact program advisors for guidance on degree options.
- In addition to the 90 credit degree and the 47 credit one-year certificate, short-term certificates are also available.
- The ECE program is open entry with few prerequisite course requirements. Courses are offered online and in the evenings to accommodate working students. Most courses are open to students for personal enrichment, elective, and continuing education credit.
- ECE students may begin the program during any quarter and enroll part-time or full-time.
- The on-campus childcare center serves as the primary ECE laboratories for students. Lab experiences may also be arranged at the students local School Districts or approved childcare center.
- All courses have an online component.
- Students can continue their academic studies at Peninsula College in the Bachelor of Applied Management degree (BAS). Please contact the BAS advisor for additional prerequisite requirements at BAS@pencol.edu.

Program Prerequisites

College-level skills in English and math (eligibility for courses numbered 100 or higher) are required before registering for the English and math courses required in this program. Students entering this program should have good computer and typing skills. Students may need to complete prerequisite coursework. The placement test will help determine placement level if not known. Previous coursework may also indicate placement level.

Approximate Additional Costs

- Books, supplies and miscellaneous fees (per quarter): \$500
- TB Test: \$75
- Background Check: \$55-100

Sample Schedule

This sample schedule is provided as a guide for a full-time student starting in fall quarter whose goal is to earn the AAS-T. The typical student schedule is based on entering the program during the fall quarter, however some programs allow students to enter in the winter or spring as well. Since not all do, please confirm with an advisor whether this program must be started during a specific quarter or not.

First Quarter (Fall)

Catalog #	Course Title	Credits
ECED& 105	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	5
ECED& 107	Health, Nutrition, and Safety	5
ECED& 120	Practicum	2



Second Quarter (Winter)

Catalog #	Course Title	Credits
ECED& 160 or MATH 106		5
ECED& 190	Observation and Assessment	3
EDUC& 115	Child Development	5
EDUC& 130	Guiding Behavior	3

Third Quarter (Spring)

Catalog #	Course Title	Credits
ECED& 170 or MATH 108		3-5
ECED& 180	Language and Literacy Development	3
EDUC& 150	Child, Family, and Community	3
ENGL& 101	English Composition I	5

Fourth Quarter (Fall)

Catalog #	Course Title	Credits
ENGL& 102	Composition II	5
Natural Sciences with Lab		5
Social Sciences		5

Fifth Quarter (Winter)

Catalog #	Course Title	Credits
Art Elective		5
ECED& 160 or MATH 106		5
PSYC& 100	General Psychology	5



Sixth Quarter (Spring)

Catalog #	Course Title	Credits
ECED& 170 or MATH 108		3-5
EDUC 240	Advancing Equity in Education	3
Elective		5
HIST 216 or IIS 101		5

[MATH 106](#) is offered every other Winter (even year) and [MATH 108](#) is offered every other Spring (even year). If [MATH 106](#) or [MATH 108](#) are not offered the quarter you need, take the required ECED course listed and plan to take [MATH 106](#) or [MATH 108](#) the following year.

Students planning to transfer to a School of Education should take [MATH 106](#) and [MATH 108](#). Students should work with the Early Childhood Education Program Advisor.

Your personal educational plan will vary based on many factors including:

- The quarter you begin
- How many classes/credits you plan to take in each quarter
- Your math and English placement; Learn more about placement options by visiting the [Assessment and Placement website](#).
- If you start in our [Transitional Studies](#) program

Total Credits **90**