

EDUCATION: EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION TEACHER (TECHNICAL CERTIFICATE)

Award: Technical Certificate
Program of Study: Early Childhood Education Teacher
Program Code: 1193

About This Program . . .

The Early Childhood Education program is designed to prepare students to work with young children (birth to age eight in a variety of settings). This certificate is designed for students wishing to work as lead teachers in a childcare classroom. Students who wish to work in licensed early childhood care and education programs may complete the sequence of courses for Early Childhood Education Teacher and then continue on to earn an Associate of Arts degree in Early Childhood Education. The Early Childhood Education Teacher certificate enables students to meet the educational qualifications established by the Colorado Department of Human Services.

For more information on what you can do with this major, visit WCCC's Programs of Study (<https://www.coloradomesa.edu/wccc/programs/>) page.

All CMU/WCCC technical certificate graduates are expected to demonstrate proficiency in communication fluency, quantitative fluency, specialized knowledge/applied learning, and critical thinking. In addition to these campus-wide student learning outcomes, graduates of this major will be able to:

1. Demonstrate effective written communication skills. (Communication Fluency)
2. Demonstrate effective written verbal skills (Communication Fluency)
3. Utilize mathematical skills required to instruct young children (Quantitative Fluency)
4. Evaluate current professional resources relating to several different domains of early childhood education. (Critical Thinking)
5. Create documents that are substantially error-free for children and families using current early childhood professional terminology (Specialized Knowledge)
6. Apply the National Association for the Education of Young Children principles and practices in interactions with young children, families and other professionals. (Applied Learning)

Requirements

Each section below contains details about the requirements for this program. Select a header to expand the information/requirements for that particular section of the program's requirements.

To print or save an overview of this program's information, including the program description, learning outcomes, requirements, suggested course sequencing (if applicable), and advising and graduation information, scroll to the bottom of the left-hand navigation menu and select 'Print Options.' This will give you the options to either 'Send Page to Printer' or 'Download PDF of This Page.' The 'Download PDF of This Page' option

prepares a much more concise presentation of all program information. The PDF is also printable and may be preferable due to its brevity.

Institutional Certificate Requirements

The following institutional requirements apply to all CMU or WCCC Technical Certificates. Specific programs may have different requirements that must be met in addition to institutional requirements.

- Consists of 5-59 semester hours.
- Consists of 100-200 level courses.
- At least fifty percent of the credit hours must be taken at CMU/WCCC.
- 2.00 cumulative GPA or higher in all CMU/WCCC coursework.
- A grade lower than "C" will not be counted toward meeting the requirements.
- A course may only be used to fulfill one requirement for each degree/certificate.
- Non-traditional credit, such as advanced placement, credit by examination, credit for prior learning, cooperative education and internships, cannot exceed twenty-five percent of the semester credit hours required for a technical certificate.
- Pre-collegiate courses (usually numbered below 100) cannot be used for graduation.
- Capstone exit assessment/projects (e.g., Major Field Achievement Test) requirements are identified under Program-Specific Certificate Requirements.
- The Catalog Year determines which program sheet and certificate requirements a student must fulfill in order to graduate. Visit with your advisor or academic department to determine which catalog year and program requirements you should follow.
- See "Requirements for Undergraduate Degrees and Certificates" in the catalog for a complete list of graduation requirements.

Program Specific Certificate Requirements

(16 semester hours, must maintain a 2.00 cumulative GPA or higher in all coursework.)

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
Required Courses		
EDEC 101 or EDEC 113	Introduction to Early Childhood Infant and Toddler Theory and Practice	3
Select one of the following:		3
EDEC 102	Introduction to Early Childhood Professions Lab Experiences	
EDEC 114	Introduction to Infant/Toddler Lab Techniques	
EDEC 241	Early Childhood Administration: Human Relations	
EDEC 256	Working with Parents, Families, and Community Systems	
EDEC 299	Student Teaching in Early Education	
Select one of the following:		3
EDEC 103	Guidance Strategies	
EDEC 250	Exceptionalities in Early Education	
EDEC 122	Ethics in Early Childhood Education	1
EDEC 240	Curriculum and Development: Early Childhood	3

EDEC 238	Early Childhood Development 0-8 Years	3
Total Semester Credit Hours		16

- Register for all needed courses and complete all requirements for each degree sought.

Suggested Course Plan

First Year

Fall Semester

		Semester Credit Hours
EDEC 101 or EDEC 113	Introduction to Early Childhood or Infant and Toddler Theory and Practice	3
EDEC 103 or EDEC 250	Guidance Strategies or Exceptionalities in Early Education	3
EDEC 122	Ethics in Early Childhood Education	1
Semester Credit Hours		7

Spring Semester

EDEC 238	Early Childhood Development 0-8 Years	3
EDEC 240	Curriculum and Development: Early Childhood	3
Select one of the following:		3
EDEC 102	Introduction to Early Childhood Professions Lab Experiences	
EDEC 114	Introduction to Infant/Toddler Lab Techniques	
EDEC 241	Early Childhood Administration: Human Relations	
EDEC 256	Working with Parents, Families, and Community Systems	
EDEC 299	Student Teaching in Early Education	
Semester Credit Hours		9
Total Semester Credit Hours		16

Submission deadlines and commencement details can be found at <http://www.coloradomesa.edu/registrar/graduation.html>.

If a student's petition for graduation is denied, it will be her/his responsibility to consult the Registrar's Office regarding next steps.

Advising and Graduation

Advising Process and DegreeWorks

Documentation on the pages related to this program is intended for informational purposes to help determine what courses and associated requirements are needed to earn a certificate. Some courses are critical to complete in specific semesters while others may be moved around. Meeting with an academic advisor is essential in planning courses and discussing the suggested course sequencing. It is ultimately the student's responsibility to understand and fulfill the requirements for her/his intended certificate.

DegreeWorks is an online degree audit tool available in MAVzone. It is the official record used by the Registrar's Office to evaluate progress towards a certificate and determine eligibility for graduation. Students are responsible for reviewing their DegreeWorks audit on a regular basis and should discuss questions or concerns with their advisor or academic department head. Discrepancies in requirements should be reported to the Registrar's Office.

Graduation Process

Students must complete the following in the first two months of the semester prior to completing their certificate requirements (for one-semester certificates, complete in the first week of class):

- Review their DegreeWorks audit and create a plan that outlines how unmet requirements will be met in the final semester.
- Meet with their advisor and modify their plan as needed. The advisor must approve the final plan.
- Submit the "Intent to Graduate" form to the Registrar's Office to officially declare the intended graduation date and commencement ceremony plans.