



Child Care Career

Program: Early Childhood Education

Program Code:

CH

Academic Area:

Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education

Type:

Associate in Science

CIP Code:

13.1209

Program Statement

The Early Childhood Education Career program prepares students to become eligible for the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care lead teacher qualification. Students select one of two concentration areas; Infant-Toddler or Preschool.

Program Information

- Students are required to take 21 courses for a total of 64 credits. Program courses include topics in child development, observation and assessment, curriculum, special needs, and health and safety.
- All students are required to meet 10 general education requirements. All general education requirements are integrated throughout required and elective courses.
- Students should take any required developmental course in their first semester along with EDU 101 College Success Seminar for Education.
- Students should meet with the program coordinator prior to registering for courses.
- Students should follow the recommended course sequence provided in the catalog.
- All Early Childhood students must achieve grades of "C-" or better in all subject courses with an ECE designation.
- Courses address the knowledge and competencies required for MA Department of Early Education and Care teacher and lead teacher qualifications. The lead teacher qualification level is dependent upon the selected concentration (infant, toddler, or preschool). Students should access the Department of Early Education and Care website for specific teaching qualifications.
- Students will apply respectful care and educational principles tailored for infants, toddlers, and/or preschool children.
- Through two supervised practicum placements in a licensed early childhood education program, students will demonstrate their grasp of these principles and their ability to provide high-quality education and respectful care.

After Bristol

- This program is MassTransfer eligible as long as students complete MassTransfer eligible Human Expression elective. See your advisor for more details.
- For students who are interested in transferring, please visit Transfer Services. Please plan your transfer at least one year before graduation.



- Upon completion of the degree, students are eligible to work in an intermediate level teaching position in early childhood education programs.
- Graduates of this degree have gone on to become lead teachers, curriculum coordinators, owners of early childhood programs (center-based, and family child care), and paraprofessionals in the public-school department.

Special Requirements for the Program

- Students must take ECE 251 Teaching Practicum I and Seminar I and ECE 252 Teaching Practicum II and Seminar II which requires students to teach in a local child care setting. Practicums will take place within a 40-50 mile radius of the Fall River campus and must be in Massachusetts.
- In order to enroll in a teaching practicum and seminar, students must meet with the Department Chair the semester before enrollment to ensure that the student meets all prerequisites and requirements.
- Students will be assigned to an early childhood education program, unless they are already working in a Massachusetts licensed child care program, in which case Bristol will make every effort to work with the student's place of employment.
- C.O.R.I. (Criminal Offender Record Information) and S.O.R.I. (Sexual Offender Registry Information) background checks are required prior to clinical placement and are conducted in accordance with State regulations by both Bristol Community College and early child care agencies/elementary schools. Students may be required to complete fingerprinting and would be financially responsible for any costs associated with fingerprinting.
- Students that plan to complete a practicum must have a physical examination, Hepatitis B immunization, other immunizations as required by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, and must have a tuberculosis test each year.
- Transportation to fieldwork sites is the responsibility of the student. Students should be prepared to travel up to an hour from campus for these assignments.
- During this program, which requires practicum experience, Early Childhood students should be aware that young children are physically very active. Students must be able to move quickly and have sufficient visual, hearing, comprehension, and communication skills to accurately monitor children in their care.

Degree Requirements

General Courses

Course #	Title	Credits
EDU 101	College Success Seminar for Education	1
ENG 101	Composition I: College Writing	3
ENG 102	Composition II: Writing about Literature	3
HST 113	United States History to 1877	3
HST 114	United States History from 1877	3
	PSY 101 or SOC 101	3



Elective Courses

Course #	Title	Credits
	Human Expression Elective	3
	Mathematics Elective	3
	BIO 110 or BIO 117	3
	Lab Science Elective	4

Program Courses

Course #	Title	Credits
ECE 110	Early Childhood Growth and Development	3
ECE 111	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3
ECE 112	Observing, Recording, and Analyzing Early Childhood Settings	3
ECE 113	Health, Safety, and Nutrition in Early Childhood Environments	3
ECE 221	Guiding Young Children	3
ECE 222	Special Needs in Early Childhood	3
ECE 234	Preschool Curriculum Planning	3
ECE 244	Parent-Teacher Communication and Partnerships	3
ECE 251	Teaching Practicum I and Seminar I	4

Concentration Courses

Choose one of the following concentration options:

Course #	Title	Credits
	Infant-Toddler Track	7
	Preschool Track	7

Recommended Course Sequence - Semester 1

Course #	Title	Credits
EDU 101	College Success Seminar for Education	1
ECE 110	Early Childhood Growth and Development	3
ECE 111	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3
ECE 113	Health, Safety, and Nutrition in Early Childhood Environments	3
ENG 101	Composition I: College Writing	3
	Mathematics Elective	3



Recommended Course Sequence - Semester 2

Course #	Title	Credits
ECE 112	Observing, Recording, and Analyzing Early Childhood Settings	3
ECE 222	Special Needs in Early Childhood	3
	Lab Science Elective	4
	PSY 101 or SOC 101	3
ENG 102	Composition II: Writing about Literature	3

Recommended Course Sequence - Semester 3

Course #	Title	Credits
ECE 221	Guiding Young Children	3
ECE 234	Preschool Curriculum Planning	3
ECE 251	Teaching Practicum I and Seminar I	4
	BIO 110 or BIO 117	3
HST 113	United States History to 1877	3

Recommended Course Sequence - Semester 4

Course #	Title	Credits
ECE 244	Parent-Teacher Communication and Partnerships	3
	ECE 224, ECE 291 or ECE 292	3
ECE 252	Teaching Practicum II and Seminar II	4
HST 114	United States History from 1877	3
	Human Expression Elective	3
	Total credits:	64

Category Descriptions

PSY 101 or SOC 101

Credits: 3

Choose one of the following:

Course #	Title	Credits
PSY 101	General Psychology	3
SOC 101	Principles of Sociology	3



Human Expression Elective

Credits: 3

Choose one Human Expression elective which also meets the Humanities and Fine Arts MassTransfer requirements.

Mathematics Elective

Credits: 3

Choose one of the following:

Course #	Title	Credits
MTH 119	Fundamental Statistics	3
MTH 125	Modern College Mathematics	3

BIO 110 or BIO 117

Credits: 3

Choose one of the following:

Course #	Title	Credits
BIO 110	Biology of Human Reproduction	3
BIO 117	Physiology of Wellness	3

Lab Science Elective

Credits: 4

Choose one MassTransfer Lab Science elective.

Infant-Toddler Track

Credits: 7

Course #	Title	Credits
ECE 224	Infant and Toddler Development and Curriculum	3
ECE 252	Teaching Practicum II and Seminar II	4

Preschool Track

Credits: 7

Course #	Title	Credits
ECE 252	Teaching Practicum II and Seminar II	4
	ECE 291 or ECE 292	3