

Early Care and Education

Associate in Applied Science

Credit Requirements: 69-72 Semester Credit Hours

The Early Care and Education two-year degree helps students prepare for employment at the associate degree level in settings that include, but are not limited to, any part- or full-day program in a center, school or home that serves young and school-age children and their families, including children with special developmental and learning needs. While some courses in the program may transfer, the program is not designed as a transfer program.

Key features of this associate degree include career specializations such as Infant and Toddler Development, Early Childhood Development, Child Care Management, School-Age and Youth Development and Early Childhood Special Education. Laboratory placement exists in diverse settings that allow for quality practical and hands-on experiences.

Admission into this program requires proof of high school graduation (or GED) and qualifying scores on SAT, ACT or the TTC placement test. Students who have transfer credits of C or better from an approved, regionally accredited postsecondary institution may not need to take the placement test. The Early Care and Education associate degree also requires the following additional admission requirements as prerequisites to labs in licensed child care centers: a health assessment denoting good health, a negative tuberculosis skin test and compliance with technical standards. A clear criminal background check by the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) is also required. In addition to SLED background checks, some child development centers and schools may require fingerprinting. Students entering these laboratory courses may opt to be fingerprinted. Fingerprinting and a SLED background check are required for the Early Care and Education work force.

Recommended Sequence of Courses

First Semester

CPT 101	Introduction to Computers	3
or		
CPT 102	Basic Computer Concepts	3
ECD 101	Introduction to Early Childhood	3
or		
ECD 270	Foundations in Early Care and Education	3
ECD 102	Growth and Development I	3
ECD 132	Creative Experiences	3
ENG 101	English Composition I	3
		Total 15

Second Semester

ECD 105	Guidance-Classroom Management	3
ECD 107	Exceptional Children	3
ECD 203	Growth and Development II	3
HSS 201	Issues in Humanities	3
or		
THE 101	Introduction to Theater	3
ELE ECE	Select one course from Secondary Specialty Electives	3-4
		Total 15-16

Third Semester

ECD 131	Language Arts	3
ECD 135	Health, Safety and Nutrition	3
MAT 110	College Algebra	3
or		
MAT 120	Probability and Statistics	3
or		
MAT 155	Contemporary Mathematics	3
ELE ECE	Select one course from Secondary Specialty Electives	3-4
		Total 12-13

Fourth Semester

ECD 133	Science and Math Concepts	3
ECD 201	Principles of Ethics and Leadership in Early Care and Education	3
PSY 201	General Psychology	3
ELE ECE	Select two courses from Applied Electives	6-7
		Total 15-16

Fifth Semester

ECD 243	Supervised Field Experience I	3
ELE ECE	Select three courses from Secondary Specialty Electives	9-11
		Total 12-14

Early Care and Education Electives

Applied Electives (Select two)

ECD 138	Movement and Music for Children	3
ECD 220	Social Studies Curriculum	3
ECD 237	Methods and Materials	3
ECD 239	Assessment and Program Planning	3
ECD 250	Supervised Comprehensive Work Experience in Early Childhood Development	4
ECD 252	Diversity Issues in Early Care and Education	3
SAC 201	Development of the School-Age Child and Youth	3
SAC 202	Administration of School-Age and Youth Programs	3
SAC 206	Human Relationships for Children, Staff and Families	3
SAC 207	Science, Technology and Cultural Arts in School-Age and Youth Programs	3
SAC 209	Introduction to Special Education for School-Age Children and Youth	3

Secondary Specialty Electives (Select five)

BIO 101	Biological Science I	4
ECD 106	Observation of Young Children	3
ECD 108	Family and Community Relations	3
ECD 109	Administration and Supervision	3
ECD 200	Curriculum Issues in Infant and Toddler Development	3
ECD 205	Social and Group Care of Infants/Toddlers	3
ECD 207	Inclusive Care	3
ECD 210	Early Childhood Intervention	3
ECD 251	Supervised Field Experience in Infant and Toddler Development	3
ECD 253	Communication Systems for ECSE	3
ECD 254	Facilitation and Environmental Management for ECSE	3
ECD 255	Activity Therapy for Early Childhood Special Education	3
ECD 256	Counseling Techniques for ECSE	3
ECD 257	Supervised Field Experience in Early Childhood Special Education	3
ENG 102	English Composition	3
HIS 101	Western Civilization	3
MGT 120	Small Business Management or BUS 101 Introduction to Business	3
MUS 105	Music Appreciation	3

SAC 200	Introduction to School-Age and Youth Care	3
SAC 203	Designing Model Environments for School-Age Children and Youth	3
SAC 204	Safety, Health and Nutrition for School-Age Children and Youth	3
SAC 205	Guiding Behavior, Violence Prevention and Classroom Management	3
SAC 208	Supervised Field Experience for School-Age and Youth Care	3
SPA 101	Elementary Spanish I	4

Human Services

Associate in Applied Science

Credit Requirements: 67-68 Semester Credit Hours

Human Services professionals hold jobs in such diverse settings as group homes and halfway houses; correctional and community mental health centers; family, child and youth service agencies; and programs concerned with family violence and aging. Depending on the employment setting and the types of clients served, the job titles and duties vary a great deal. The primary purpose of the human services worker is to assist individuals, families or communities to function as effectively as possible in the major domains of living. Students in the Human Services program will choose a focus area in Addictions/Substance Abuse, Developmental Disabilities, Family Intervention Studies, Gerontology or as a Human Services Generalist.

Admission into this program requires proof of high school graduation (or GED) and qualifying scores on SAT, ACT or the TTC placement test. Students who have transfer credits of C or better from an approved, regionally accredited postsecondary institution may not need to take the placement test.

Students will complete a comprehensive field placement during the last half of the program. Assignments for the field placement exist in mental health, youth services, social services, eldercare, corrections, disabilities, rehabilitation and addiction services. A criminal background check by the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) is required for students prior to field placement assignments. Students may be subject to additional agency screening above and beyond those required by TTC.