

SO YOU EARNED YOUR CERTIFICATE, NOW WHAT?

Upon completion of the certificate program, participants will have developed or strengthened competencies in understanding children's physical, cognitive, social, and emotional development, methods of observing and recording children's behavior, developing curriculum for young children, teaching diverse learners, working effectively with families and using the resources of communities, and college-level writing and research skills.

Participants who complete the ECECP will be awarded 18 credits, which can be utilized in a number of ways:

- 1) ECECP certificate holders who work as paraprofessionals for the New York City Department of Education may use the 18 credits they've earned to meet New York State requirements for the Teaching Assistant Level 3 Certificate.
- 2) ECECP certificate holders can transfer to the Undergraduate Early Childhood teacher education program at the Center for Worker Education, which leads to a B.S. degree and New York State initial teacher certification, Birth-8 years of age. This seamless transition will expose students to the expectations and standards set by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).
- 3) ECECP certificate holders may transfer the credits earned to numerous associates and bachelor programs within the CUNY system.

ABOUT THE CENTER FOR WORKER EDUCATION

The Center for Worker Education (CWE), headquartered in Lower Manhattan, is a division of The City College of New York's (CCNY) College of Liberal Arts & Science. Founded in 1981, it has become one of the leading working adult educational institutions in New York City. CWE offers an excellent interdisciplinary B.A. degree in Liberal Arts with a number of special concentrations and a B.S. degree in Early Childhood Education. It attracts over 750 working professionals per semester and reflects the multi-ethnic composition of New York City.

ABOUT EARLY CHILDHOOD

EDUCATION (ECE) DEGREE

The Center for Worker Education's Early Childhood Education degree program is the City College School of Education's early childhood teacher education program. It grants a Bachelor of Science degree.

The ECE Program is dedicated to educating excellent early childhood teachers who are knowledgeable about children's development, capable of supporting diverse learners, and are able to apply a broad range of instructional and assessment strategies to real-life classroom situations. We seek to develop teachers who value lifelong learning, are critical thinkers, and can become active agents for improvement and change in schools and educational systems.

Graduates of the ECE program are recommended by the City College School of Education for New York State initial teacher certification in birth through second grade. Students must apply for acceptance to the ECE Program and are required to complete all required courses, fieldwork, and supervised student teaching.

To obtain additional information about ECECP or the admissions process into the ECE program at CWE, please contact one of the following faculty or staff members:

Vicki Garavuso

Director of the Early Childhood Education Program
212.925.6625 x 240

Deborah Edwards-Anderson

Coordinator of the Early Childhood Education Program/
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CENTER FOR WORKER EDUCATION

Early Childhood Education Certificate Program (ECECP)



EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CERTIFICATE PROGRAM (ECECP) INTRODUCTION

Why the need to create and offer such a program?

“Numerous studies have found that the education level of preschool teachers and specialized training in early childhood education predict teaching quality and children’s learning and development. **Better educated teachers have more positive, sensitive, and responsive interactions with children, provide richer language and cognitive experiences, and are less authoritarian, punitive, and detached. The result is better social, emotional, linguistic, and cognitive development for the child.**”—*W.S. Barnett (2003).*

Better Teachers, Better Preschools: Student Achievement Linked to Teacher Qualifications, Preschool Policy Matters, 2. New Brunswick, NJ: NIEER.

Research shows that the most effective learning environments for young children are those that have highly qualified teaching staff. The ECE workforce in New York City needs additional professional development opportunities and economic mobility within its field. This growing profession needs to foster ways to climb the ladder from teacher’s aide to teaching assistant to certified teacher, if desired.

The City College Center for Worker Education Early Childhood Education Certificate Program (ECECP) was created in 2006 to serve this purpose. The ECECP program provides high-quality early childhood practices and methods for assistant teachers and be teacher’s aides in day care/child care programs and Head Start/Early Head Start programs.



PROGRAM GOALS



The goal of the ECE Certification Program is to provide a credited certificate in Early Childhood Education theory and methods that will improve the knowledge base and skill level of the New York City early childhood workforce and support participants in attaining career and educational advancement.

Coursework

In order to successfully earn a certificate in Early Childhood Education, participants must successfully complete the following courses:

Required Coursework	Credits
1. College Preparatory Bridge Course	0
2. Building Blocks of Early Childhood Education I	4
3. Building Blocks in Early Childhood Education II	4
4. Psychology in the Modern World	3
5. School, Family, Community	2
6. English Composition	3
7. Computer Research Seminar	2
TOTAL: 18	

All courses will be offered late afternoons/after work hours and held on-site at the Center for Worker Education.

CORE COMPETENCIES

These courses will teach participants the following core competencies:

- ✓ Understanding children’s physical, cognitive, social and emotional development
- ✓ Observing and recording children’s behavior
- ✓ Developing curriculum for young children
- ✓ Teaching diverse learners (cultural, socioeconomic, linguistic, special needs)
- ✓ Working effectively with families and using the resources of communities
- ✓ College-level writing and research skills

REQUIREMENTS

If you are interested in the Early Childhood Education Certificate Program, please contact the ECECP Coordinator at (212) 925-6625, ext. 235, who will provide you with information about admission, registration and advisement procedures.

ADVISEMENT AND REGISTRATION

Each prospective student in the ECECP will have the opportunity to meet individually with the Program Coordinator to complete an admissions application, be academically advised, and register for program courses. The program will also hold an orientation for new students that will offer information about study skills and strategies and career planning within the early childhood field.

Prospective students will register for certificate program courses during traditional registration periods during the spring and fall semesters. Tuition is \$170.00 per credit for New York State residents; financial aid may be available for those who qualify. The ECECP accepts UFT Career Training Program vouchers from the New York City Department of Education.



Cel Garay/XCel Photo