



**ILLINOIS VALLEY**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



# EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

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# Associate of Applied Science Degree EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

## » WHAT IS EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION?

Early Childhood Educators specialize in the care and education of children birth to age eight. Students gain content knowledge about young children's development in order to develop the skills and dispositions to work with young children and their families. IVCC's ECE program is a Gateways-Entitled institution. Graduates of the program are highly sought after by area employers. **IVCC's AAS in ECE transfers, with junior standing, to all Illinois universities. There are in-person and online teacher licensure options available upon transfer.**

## » PROGRAM OPTIONS

IVCC's ECE Program offers a flexible delivery model for some courses for the incumbent workforce, which allows students to attend face-to-face on campus, livestream into class, or view recordings. Students can earn the following certificates:

- Gateways ECE Credential Level 2 Certificate (18 credit hours)
- Gateways Infant/Toddler Credential Level 2 Certificate (ECE Level 2 + 3 credit hours)
- Gateways ECE Credential Level 3 Certificate (27 credit hours)
- Gateways Infant/Toddler Credential Level 3 Certificate (ECE Level 3 + 6 credit hours)
- Director-Qualified Certificate (21 credit hours)

Each of the certificates build into the AAS degree, which is the Gateways ECE Level 4 Credential, with the option of the Infant/Toddler Level 4 Credential.

## » HANDS ON TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

Courses in the Early Childhood Education program are offered in online, blended, and face-to-face formats to meet the needs of traditional students and adult student populations. Students who have documentation of the Child Development Associate (CDA) may waive six ECE credit hours. The Early Childhood program has observation hours/field experience hours built into all certificates and degree options. Most students are hired prior to completion of certificate/degree.

## » AFFORDABILITY

IVCC tuition is just one-third to one-fourth the cost of state universities and far below most private institutions. An approximation of tuition and fees and cost comparison can be found on the IVCC website at [www.ivcc.edu/payment](http://www.ivcc.edu/payment) and at [www.ivcc.edu/save](http://www.ivcc.edu/save).

Many scholarship opportunities are available through the IVCC Foundation at [www.ivcc.edu/foundation](http://www.ivcc.edu/foundation) and Financial Aid is available for those who qualify at [www.ivcc.edu/financialaid](http://www.ivcc.edu/financialaid). Gateways Scholarships may be available for students who have earned their Gateways Level 1 Credential through their high school.

Students who have worked or currently work with young children may be eligible for coverage of tuition, fees, books, and cost of attendance through the Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity Scholarship (ECACE) at [www.isac.org/ECACEscholarship](http://www.isac.org/ECACEscholarship)

High school dual credit courses are available through some in-district high schools.

## TRANSFER and CAREER OPTIONS

- Early Childhood Education AAS degree transfers to all public, and some private, universities
- Lead and Assistant Teachers
- Director in a Child Care Center
- Family Child Care Provider
- Paraprofessional

Explore careers at: [www.mynextmove.org](http://www.mynextmove.org)

## AAS EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM CURRICULUM

Course No. | Course Name | Credits

### FIRST YEAR - FALL SEMESTER

ECE 1000	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3
ECE 1027	Child, Family, School & Community	3
ECE 1202	Foundations & Trends for Infant/Toddler/Two Care and Education	3
ECE 1206	Foundations in Early Childhood Education	3
PSY 2001	Child Growth and Development	3
<b>Semester Total:</b>		<b>15</b>

### FIRST YEAR - SPRING SEMESTER

ECE 1005	Health, Safety, and Nutrition	3
EDC 2006	Multicultural Education <i>or</i>	3
ECE 1204	Developmentally Appropriate Practices for Infants/Toddlers/Twos <i>or</i>	
ECE 2205	Leadership and Coaching in ECE	
ECE 2202	Curriculum Programming	3
ECE 2005	Exceptional Learner	3
EDC 1203	Creative Activities	3
<b>Semester Total:</b>		<b>15</b>

### FIRST YEAR - SUMMER SEMESTER

ENG 1001	English Composition I	3
<b>Semester Total:</b>		<b>3</b>

### SECOND YEAR - FALL SEMESTER

ECE 1201	Child Guidance/Child Study	3
ECE 1205	Mathematics for the Young Child <i>or</i> General Education Math Course	3
ECE 2207	Observation & Assessment	3
ECE 2208	Language Development	3
	AAS General Education Course	3
<b>Semester Total:</b>		<b>15</b>

### SECOND YEAR - SPRING SEMESTER

ECE 2203	Supervision & Administration	3
ECE 2206	E-Portfolio	1
ECE 2219	Practicum/Student Teaching	5
	AAS General Education Course <i>or</i>	3
ECE 2220	Practicum/Student Teaching Infants/Toddlers	
<b>Semester Total:</b>		<b>12</b>

**TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: 60**



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