

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (A.A.) +

In the Early Childhood Education (ECE) program, you will develop knowledge, skills, and experience to help you work effectively with young children (aged birth to eight) and families. These skills are based on industry standards and professional competencies in child development, family and community, teaching and learning, health and safety, professionalism, and program organization. Elective credits in the program provide flexibility to delve more deeply in to topics to support your career goals. For example, students may use elective credits to incorporate courses required for CCV's Afterschool & Youth Work certificate or courses required for Vermont's Program Director credential. Students in the Early Childhood Education degree program may choose to pursue related certificates while obtaining their degree, including Afterschool & Youth Work and Childcare.

All associate degrees include completion of general education requirements which, together with program requirements, constitute a minimum of 60 credits. In some cases program requirements also fulfill general education requirements. You may not use a single course to meet two general education requirements.

General Education

Complete at least one course in each of the following:

- First Semester Seminar
INT 1050 Dimensions of Self & Society
- Introductory Written Expression – VSCS
ENG 1061 English Composition
- Digital and Computing Literacy – VSCS

- Mathematics - VSCS

- Natural Science - VSCS

- Social Science - VSCS
PSY 2010 - Child Development
or
PSY 2020 - Infant & Toddler Development
- Arts & Aesthetics - VSCS

- Humanistic Perspectives - VSCS

- Communication
Meets graduation standard in oral communication

COM 1015 - Communication in the Early Childhood Education & Afterschool Workplace
- Research & Writing Intensive

- HUM 2010 Seminar in Educational Inquiry
Meets graduation standard in writing and information literacy
- Quantitative Reasoning Assessment
Meets graduation standard in quantitative reasoning

**You may use a course to meet both a program requirement and a general education requirement; however, you may not use a single course to meet two general education requirements.*

Program Requirements

Courses are listed in the order in which we recommend you take them.

- EDU 1030 - Introduction to Early Childhood Education
- PSY 2010 - Child Development * and
Choose 6 credits in EDU, PSY, and/or SOC
or
PSY 2020 - Infant & Toddler Development *
and
PSY 2025 - Development of the Young Child: Ages 3-8
and
Choose 3 credits in EDU, PSY, or SOC
- COM 1015 - Communication in the Early Childhood Education & Afterschool Workplace*
- EDU 1270 - Supporting Young Children with Diverse Abilities
- EDU 2045 - Curriculum Development for Early Childhood Education
- INT 2860 - Professional Field Experience

Electives: 9 credits

Note(s)

*You may use a course to meet both a program requirement and a general education requirement; however, you may not use a single course to meet two general education requirements.

Minimum Total Credits in Degree: 60

+ This program can be completed fully online.

Program Outcomes

Graduates of the Early Childhood Education program will be able to:

- practice and model effective communication, observation strategies, and partnerships with children and their families;
- apply developmentally appropriate and professionally accepted practices used in childcare or school settings which promote inclusion of children with diverse abilities;
- employ strategies to maintain a safe, healthy, and nurturing learning environment in childcare and school settings;
- exhibit professional conduct in an early childhood education or school setting including legal and ethical responsibilities, roles, and boundaries;
- demonstrate academic skills required of all CCV graduates, including competency in writing, information literacy, oral communication, and quantitative reasoning; and
- explore pathways and demonstrate preparedness for educational and career development in the student's field of study.

The Early Childhood Education program is great for you if:

- you currently work or have experience working with children;
- you are interested in the development of children;
- you enjoy interpersonal communication and working with a wide variety of people;
- you care about making a difference for children and families in your community;
- you want to gain theoretical background and practical experience in the field of education and early education; and
- you are willing to maintain state childcare licensing requirements, pursue continuing education classes, or earn industry recognized certificates.

Key information and advice for students in the Early Childhood Education program:

- The ECE associate degree integrates with the requirements for Vermont's Early Childhood Career Ladder – Level IIIB. Coursework in the degree also supports the Program Director for Early Childhood and Afterschool Programs credential, and the Vermont Child Care Apprenticeship program.
- The Childcare certificate is designed to fit inside the ECE degree, providing a stepping-stone to greater training and compensation. The Childcare certificate aligns with Vermont's Early Childhood Career Ladder - Level IIIA.
- Courses required for the Afterschool & Youth Work certificate can be applied to the ECE degree.
- Professional Field Experience (PFE) gives students practical experience in the workplace and can be a connection to employment in the early childhood education field.
- Students interested in pursuing a bachelor's degree in early childhood or elementary education are encouraged to identify transfer options early to optimize course choices.
- The Vermont State Colleges System's (VSCS) Direct Admissions program gives CCV students guaranteed transfer admission to all VSCS schools, saving them time and money. Visit ccv.edu/transfer for more information.

The Early Childhood Education program prepares you for careers such as:

- Registered Home Childcare Provider
- Associate Teacher in licensed childcare program
- Paraprofessional or Teaching Assistant
- Staff in afterschool program
- Head Start Home Visitor or Teacher (bachelor's degree may be required)
- Elementary School Teacher (bachelor's degree required)

For up-to-date Vermont labor market information, including salary information and growth projections, view the Economic and Labor Market Information on the Vermont Department of Labor Website <http://www.vtلمي.info/>.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (A.S.) -- CREATE A FOCUS AREA

Electives within the Early Childhood (A.A.) program allow students to incorporate courses required for Steps I and II of Vermont's Program Director credential and CCV's Afterschool & Youth Work certificate. The table below describes how these courses fulfill ECE degree requirements.

Recommended courses for Early Childhood Education focus areas:

Director Credential Courses	Afterschool & Youth Work Certificate Courses
<p>Required for ECE degree:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PSY 2010 - Child Development • EDU 2045 - Curriculum Development <p>EDU, PSY, SOC Electives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EDU 2042 - Early Childhood Education & Afterschool Program Management • EDU 2043 - Legal & Financial Issues in Early Childhood & Afterschool Programs <p>Electives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EDU 2041 - Leadership, Mentoring & Supervision for Early Childhood & Afterschool Practitioners • BUS 2410 - Human Resource Management 	<p>Required for ECE degree:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INT 1050 - Dimensions of Self & Society • COM 1015 - Communication in the Early Childhood Education & Afterschool Workplace • INT 2860 - Professional Field Experience <p>EDU, PSY, SOC Electives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EDU 1320 - Introduction to Afterschool Education • EDU 2065 - Afterschool Education & Development of the School-Aged Child <p>Electives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EDU 2145 - Social-Emotional Development in Children Ages 5-18 • EDU 2185 - Curriculum & Environment Development in Afterschool & Youth Programs • EDU 2042 - Early Childhood Education & Afterschool Program Management