



Career Opportunities as an Early Childhood Professional



Nature of the Occupation:

Early Childhood professionals provide supervision and guidance to preschool age children—age 5 or younger. An ability to nurture, motivate, teach, and influence children is essential for this career. In addition, it requires patience, creativity, leadership, and organizational abilities. Early Childhood professionals may be employed by private, community, or employer-sponsored schools and businesses. Early childhood teachers are involved in the organization and direction of the daily activities of children, as well as attend to their emotional and physical needs. Some of their duties include:

- awakening, dressing, and feeding children
- developing daily schedules
- assisting special needs children
- providing experiences in art, music, reading, and outdoor play
- guiding children and initiating measures to help children control their behavior

Education and Training:

The Associate in Applied Science degree in Child Development/Early Childhood offers students insight and understanding to become early childhood professionals. Development stages, appropriate learning exercises, and proper working models are covered. Hands-on training and practical experience are an emphasis, as well as theoretical components. The Child Development/Early Childhood program at TJC prepares a student to be better equipped to perform their job.

Salary Range:

\$6.00 - \$12.00 per hour. Pay depends on the educational attainment of the early childhood professional and the employment setting.

Employment Outlook:

The need for early childhood professionals is projected to increase by 18 percent between 2006 and 2016.

Note: Information and Data obtained from Occupational Outlook Handbook and TWC Tracer.

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States' Career Clusters Initiative, 2008, www.careerclusters.org

**TYLER JUNIOR COLLEGE
2009-2010 CATALOG
CHILD DEVELOPMENT/EARLY CHILDHOOD – CDEC_AAS**

(Associate of Applied Science)

The *child development/early childhood* curriculum combines lecture, laboratory, and on-the-job training for a career in the area of child development and early childhood. Students successfully completing the two-year program will receive an educational foundation adequate to allow them to provide child development activities and/or advance toward becoming the director of a child development facility. Two-year graduates will be awarded the Associate in Applied Science degree in Child Development/Early Childhood.

Stephen F. Austin State University and Tyler Junior College Child Development/Early Childhood have an articulated agreement to allow students to acquire a bachelor of Child and Family Development degree. Tyler Junior College will deliver lower level courses while Stephen F. Austin will deliver upper level courses, including at least 6 hours of the minor in Human Sciences. Students wishing to transfer must meet Stephen F. Austin admission requirements.

Fall Semester

CDEC 1311 Educating Young Children
CDEC 1354 Child Growth and Development
CDEC 1313 Curriculum Resources for Early Childhood Programs
CDEC 2326 Administration Programs for Children I
CDEC 1319 Child Guidance

Spring Semester

CDEC 1303 Families, School, and Community
CDEC 1318 Wellness of the Young Child
CDEC 1356 Emergent Literacy for Early Childhood
CDEC ____ Approved Child Development Elective*
CDEC ____ Approved Child Development Elective*

Summer I or II

COSC 1300 Introduction to Computing

Fall Semester

CDEC 1359 Children with Special Needs
MATH 1314 College Algebra
PSYC 2301 Introductory Psychology
BUSG 2309 Small Business Management

Spring Semester

____ ____ **Humanities/Fine Arts Elective**
ENGL 1301 Composition I
CDEC 2384 Cooperative Education – Child Development (Capstone)
____ ____ **Speech Elective**

BIOL 1411 General Botany
or
GEOL 1403 Physical Geology

TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS--61

*Approved CDEC electives: CDEC 1321, CDEC 1393, CDEC 2328, or CDEC 2374.

Bold courses represent general education courses.

A total of 60 hours must be completed to earn an Associate in Applied Science degree. In addition, students must complete the General Graduation Requirements for all Degrees listed in the Tyler Junior College Catalog. Students interested in transferring to the University of Texas at Tyler for an Early Childhood Education degree and teaching certification for grades EC-6 should contact:

Dr. Kathy Morrison,
Assistant Professor; ECE
UT Tyler
(903) 566-7016 or kmorrison@mail.uttyl.edu

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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