

Education programs

DCC's education programs span a wide range of age groups and careers. Graduates of the Associate in Applied Science and the Career Studies Certificate may seek immediate employment in daycare or elementary school settings as a teacher's aide after graduation. Associate degree students may also choose to transfer to a four-year university to become a K-12 school teacher. Special scholarship funds are available to childcare providers who wish to further their education at DCC, thanks to a generous donation from Ben & Betty Davenport.

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EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT - Career Studies Certificate

PROGRAM INFO

This program prepares students to work with children from birth to age 8 using developmentally appropriate practices documented by Virginia Competencies for Early Childhood Professionals.

Minimum credits: 16

Length: 1-2 semesters

Career opportunities:

Child Care Teacher Assistant, Substitute Teacher, & other supportive education roles: **\$20,800-24,900**

Job growth: **6%**

**Median salaries nationwide as of 2015. Source: BLS.gov*

Division: Arts, Sciences, & Business

Contact: 434.797.8402
or 434.797.8462

Admission Requirements: In addition to regular college admission requirements, program entry requires a personal interview with the Early Childhood Education Department, as well as meeting the following criteria:

1. Excellent moral character is generally considered prerequisite for employment. Background investigations will be conducted by DCC to confirm that students have not been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude or any felony.
2. Upon program entrance, the student will be responsible for obtaining **and paying for** the criminal background check, fingerprinting, and show a negative TB test.
3. Students must possess sufficient physical strength, flexibility and dexterity to perform education and care for children.

Scholarships are available for this program, including the Virginia Child Care Providers scholarship, and the Project Pathfinders Scholarship and Davenport Institute, both of which are available for current child care employees.

Program Outcomes Graduates will be able to:

1. Plan, implement, and evaluate curriculum plans and learning environments for children based on developmental appropriateness and a thorough knowledge of child development.
2. Adhere to Virginia's Standards for Licensed Child Day Centers in the planning & evaluation of classroom & learning environments to ensure the health, safety, & nutrition of children.
3. Use appropriate positive guidance strategies with children in their care.
4. Choose project & elective courses, with the help of the program advisor, to tailor learning towards possible career options.

Course Sequence

| | | Lecture Hrs | Lab Hours | Hrs in Class | Credits |
|--------------|---|-------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|
| SDV 100 | College Success Skills | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| CHD 120 | Intro to Early Childhood Education | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| CHD 145 | Teaching Art, Music & Movement to Children | 2 | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| CHD 205 | Guiding Behavior of Young Children | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| EDU 235 | Health, Safety, & Nutrition for Children | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| CHD 165 | Observation & Participation in Early Childhood Settings | 1 | 6 | 7 | 3 |
| Total | | 13 | 8 | 21 | 16 |

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION - Associate of Applied Science

Coursework includes child education, behavior management, and methods of teaching children. Instruction will include both theoretical concepts and practical applications needed to provide high-quality services for children. The degree is designed to prepare graduates either for immediate employment after graduation from DCC or to enable seamless transfer to a four-year bachelor's degree program in Early Childhood Education and teacher licensure PK-3. Please see the program coordinator for a list of Virginia Public Institutions that accept this degree for licensure and their criteria.

Scholarships are available for this program, including the Virginia Child Care Providers scholarship, Project Pathfinders scholarship, and the Davenport Institute program.

Admission Requirements: In addition to regular college admission requirements, program entry requires a personal interview with the program coordinator, as well as meeting the following criteria:

1. Excellent moral character is generally considered prerequisite for employment. Background investigations will be conducted by DCC to confirm that students have not been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude or any felony.
2. Upon program entrance, the student will be responsible for obtaining **and paying for** a criminal background check, fingerprinting, and show a negative TB test.
3. Students must possess sufficient physical strength, flexibility and dexterity to perform education and care for children.

Program Outcomes: Graduates will be able to:

1. Communicate effectively and appropriately with children and families from all backgrounds to build respectful, reciprocal relationships and use appropriate positive guidance strategies with children in their care.
2. Complete a plan for the educational, physical, fiscal and human resources needed to operate a program for children.
3. Adhere to Virginia's Standards for Licensed Child Day Centers in planning & evaluation of classroom and learning environments to ensure the health, safety, and nutrition of children.
4. Assess children's progress using formal and informal observation and assessment tools and methods.
5. Plan, implement and evaluate curriculum plans and learning environments for children based on developmental appropriateness and a thorough knowledge of child development.

PROGRAM INFO

This program prepares students to work with children from birth to age 8 using developmentally appropriate practices documented by Virginia Competencies for Early Childhood Professionals. It may result in immediate employment, or provide the foundation for transfer to a four-year institution.

Minimum credits: 62

Length: 2 years
(4 semesters), if suggested full-time course sequence is followed

Career opportunities:

Child Care Center Director:

\$24,960-41,600

Job growth:

7% from 2014 to 2024

Teacher Assistant: **\$24,900**

Job growth: **7%**

Preschool Teacher:

\$16,640-27,040

Job growth: **6%**

**Median salaries nationwide as of 2015. Source: BLS.gov*

Division: Arts, Sciences,
& Business

Contact: 434.797.8402 or
434.797.8462

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION - A.A.S.

Instructional delivery: About 2/3 of program courses are offered online or as hybrid courses to accommodate working professionals.

| | | Lecture Hrs | Lab Hours | Hrs in Class | Credits |
|------------------------|---|-------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|
| Course Sequence | | | | | |
| First Semester | | | | | |
| SDV 100 | College Success Skills | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| CHD 120 | Intro to Early Childhood Education | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| CHD 145 | Teaching Art, Music, & Movement to Children | 2 | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| CHD 165 | Observation & Participation in Early Childhood Settings | 1 | 6 | 7 | 3 |
| CHD 205 | Guiding Behavior of Young Children | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| EDU 235 | Health, Safety, & Nutrition for Children | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| Total | | 13 | 8 | 21 | 16 |
| Second semester | | | | | |
| CHD 118 | Language Arts for Young Children | 2 | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| CHD 146 | Math, Science, & Social Studies for Young Children | 2 | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| CHD 270 | Administration of Early Childhood Programs | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| ENG 111 | College Composition I | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| PSY 230 | Developmental Psychology | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| Total | | 13 | 4 | 17 | 15 |
| Third Semester | | | | | |
| CHD 166 | Infant and Toddler Programs | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| CHD 210 | Introduction to Exceptional Children | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| CHD 216 | Early Childhood Programs, Schools, & Social Change | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| ENG 112 | College Composition II | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| MTH 154 | Quantitative Reasoning | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| Total | | 15 | 0 | 15 | 15 |
| Fourth Semester | | | | | |
| CHD 265 | Advanced Observation & Participation in Early Childhood Settings | 1 | 6 | 7 | 3 |
| EDU 200 | Introduction to Teaching as a Profession | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| ENG 250 | Children's Literature or Approved LIT Elective | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| HIS 121 | United States History I | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 |
| BIO 101 | General Biology I | 3 | 3 | 6 | 4 |
| Total | | 13 | 9 | 22 | 16 |