

Early Childhood Education

Holland code family: Helpers

About the Program

The Early Childhood Education four-term certificate program prepares students to work with young children from birth through 8 years of age and their families in a variety of settings including child care centers, family child care, preschools, Head Start, school age programs, home visiting, and parent education. It is planned to accommodate both full- and part-time students including those currently employed in the field.

The program has as its basis preparation for the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential. Students may choose to complete the CDA assessment process and be eligible for entry-level jobs at that point. The CDA preparation courses serve as the foundation of the core coursework for the Early Childhood Education certificate, a one-year certificate which prepares students to work as teacher assistants or teachers in child care programs, Head Start, or other early childhood settings.

For the corresponding relationship of the Early Childhood Education coursework to the Oregon Registry: Pathways to Professional Recognition in Childhood Care and Education, go to www.pdx.edu/occd/oregon-registry-2 and click on Oregon Registry.

Program Learning Outcomes

The curriculum in RCC courses is derived from a set of identified learning outcomes that are relevant to the discipline. Program learning outcomes for early childhood education programs are:

Promote child development and learning: Students will be able to demonstrate their understanding of a) children's characteristics and needs and b) the multiple interacting influences on children's development and learning; and c) Students will be able to use developmental knowledge to create learning environments that are healthy, respectful, supportive, and challenging for each child.

Build family and community relationships: a) Students will know about, understand, and value the importance and complex characteristics of children's families and communities; b) Students will be able to support and engage families and communities through respectful, reciprocal relationships; and c) Students will be able to involve families and communities in their children's development and learning.

Observe, document, and assess: a) Students will understand the goals, benefits, and uses of assessment; b) Students will know about and use observations, documentation, and other appropriate assessment tools and approaches; c) Students will understand and practice responsible assessment to promote positive outcomes for each child; and d) Students will know about assessment partnerships with families and with professional colleagues.

Use developmentally effective approaches to connect with children and families: a) Students will understand positive relationships and supportive interactions as the foundation of their work with children; b) Students will know and understand effective strategies and tools for early childhood and/or elementary education; c) Students will use a broad repertoire of developmentally appropriate teaching/learning approaches; and d) Students will reflect on their own practice to promote positive outcomes for each child.

Use content knowledge to build meaningful curriculum: a) Students will understand content knowledge and resources in academic disciplines; b) Students will know and use the central concepts, inquiry tools, and structures of content areas or academic disciplines; and c) Students will use their own knowledge, appropriate early childhood or elementary learning standards, and other resources to design, implement, and evaluate meaningful, challenging curricula for every child.

Demonstrate professionalism: a) Students will identify and involve themselves with the early childhood and/or elementary education field; b) Students will know about and uphold ethical guidelines and other professional guidelines; c) Students will engage in continuous, collaborative learning to inform practice; d) Students will integrate knowledgeable, reflective, and critical perspectives on education; and e) Students will engage in informed advocacy for children and the profession.

Entry Requirements

Students are required to complete the Placement Process to determine skill level and readiness in math, reading, and writing. As part of their training program, students must begin with the courses within their skill level as determined through the Placement Process. In addition, students may also be required to enroll in classes that would increase their employability and success.

Students are also required to provide information regarding their measles immunization status by completing the form found on the RCC Early Childhood and Elementary Education Department website and clicking on "Measles Immunization." Completed forms must be submitted to a department secretary.

Students must also obtain an RCC student identification card. RCC photos will be taken on a scheduled basis in the Student Services area on the Redwood Campus, Grants Pass (541-956-7090), or upstairs in G Building at the Riverside Campus, Medford (541-245-7560). Students should take their schedules to obtain an identification card. Take the identification card each time an observation is scheduled in an early childhood setting.



Many courses in this department require participation in community schools, programs, and agencies for observation and practicum experiences. Some of these sites may require a background check in order for a student to participate. Future employment serving children and families will require a background check. Students may wish to consider going through a background check process to be ready for potential observation, practicum, and employment experiences – check with an ECEE advisor for additional information.

For some classes, early childhood education students are required to use the Redwood Early Childhood Center, which is a Head Start site. Therefore, all students in the Early Childhood Education program must obtain prior clearance from Head Start. The process for doing this is on the Southern Oregon Head Start website, www.socfc.org. Click on "Volunteer" and then on "Download Volunteer Packet." Required paperwork must be completed before observing or participating at a Head Start site.

Advanced Standing

Coursework from accredited colleges and universities will be accepted in accordance with college registration policies and the Early Childhood Education Department chair's approval. In order to ensure that coursework is current, program courses over 10 years old must be reviewed and approved by the appropriate department chair before being accepted toward core requirements. Each College Now credit student must meet with the department chair to determine placement.

Credits earned in the successful completion of Career Pathways Certificates can be applied to other certificates and degrees in the Career Pathway. For more information, speak to a program advisor and review the roadmap at www.roguecc.edu/Programs/CareerPathways.

Graduation Requirements

Students completing the required credits in this program with a grade of "C" or better will receive their certificates. Certain required courses are graded on a pass/no pass basis only. A grade of "P" for these courses indicates a student earned the equivalent of a "C" or better grade.

Prerequisites

Course No.	Course Title	Credits
CS/CIS	Approved 3-4 credit Computer Science or Computer Information Science class, CS120/CIS120 or above, or documented computer proficiency within the past ten years.	0-4

WR115	Introduction to Expository Writing or BT113 Business English I or higher level composition ¹	<u>3-4</u>
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Total Prerequisite Credits **3-8**

Required Program Courses

Course No.	Course Title	Credits
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First Term

ECE125	Early Childhood Development	3
ECE126	Early Childhood Education Best Practices	3
ECE152	Fostering Creativity	3
HE250	Personal Health or HPE295 Health and Fitness for Life	<u>2</u> 12

Second Term

ECE135	Applied Child Development	3
ECE136	Early Childhood Education: A Professional Overview	3
ECE151	Guiding Children in Group Settings	3
ECE154	Children's Literature and Literacy	3
ED170	Introductory Practicum	<u>1</u> 13

Third Term

ECE163	Preschool/Primary Development	3
ECE175	Developmentally Appropriate Practices	3
ED170	Introductory Practicum	1
ECE246	Child, Family and Community	3
PSY101	Psychology of Human Relations ²	<u>2</u> 13

Fourth Term

ECE161	Infant/Toddler Development	3
ECE250	Infant/Toddler Environments or ECE251 Preschool Environment or ECE252 Family Child Care Environments	3
ECE266	Spanish for Early Childhood /Elementary Professionals	3
MTH63	Applied Algebra I or BT160 Business Math or higher level math as designated by placement test score or MTH60 Fundamentals of Algebra I (MTH105 or higher recommended for transfer)	4
	Approved program elective(s)	<u>0-3</u> 13-16

TOTAL PROGRAM CREDITS **51-54**

Approved Program Electives

(a maximum of 3 credits allowed)

Course No.	Course Title	Credits
ECE199	Selected Topics in Early Childhood Education	1-3
SRV101	Service Learning	1-3
WR110	Understanding English Grammar	2

¹ Required for graduation.

² Prerequisite: WR90

For more information contact the Early Childhood and Elementary Education Department:

Grants Pass	541-956-7066
Medford	541-245-7504
Toll free in Oregon	800-411-6508, Ext. 7066 or 7504
email	ecee@rogucecc.edu
Web address	www.rogucecc.edu/ecee
TTY	Oregon Telecom Relay Service, 711

This advising guide is for advising purposes only. Please see current college catalog for additional information on specific college policies and graduation requirements.

RCC is an open institution and does not discriminate. For RCC's non-discrimination policy and a full list of regulatory specific contact persons visit the following webpage: www.rogucecc.edu/nondiscrimination.

