



ECIT-OC – Early Childhood Education – Infant/Toddler Educator On-Campus

Health and Human Services

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2026

Program Outline Review Date: 2031-03-01

Program Area: Child Youth and Family Studies

Description:

The Early Childhood Education Certificate and Diploma Program provides students with the skills and knowledge needed to work with young children and their families in diverse settings. The program emphasizes a play-based approach and focuses on positive, strength-based perspectives. Students gain practical experience through practicums that allow them to apply theory in real-world early childhood environments.

The program is structured in two levels: Students complete the Certificate after four semesters, followed by the Infant/Toddler Diploma upon completing the remaining two semesters. Key areas of learning include child development; building relationships with children and families; creating curriculum; guiding behaviours; health, safety and nutrition; theories, ethics and philosophies; interpersonal and professional communication; observing and recording; and inclusive and diverse practices.

Graduates are prepared for careers as childcare professionals in a variety of settings, including pre-schools, family childcare, Strong Start programs, and early intervention programs. The program equips students to meet the needs of children from birth to age 12.

Program Information:

Early Childhood Education Certificate and Infant/Toddler Educator Diploma:

The successful completion of the ECE certificate courses (Semesters 1-4) constitutes an Early Childhood Education Certificate. The successful completion of the ECE certificate and diploma courses (Semesters 1-6) constitutes an Early Childhood Education Diploma.

Credentials Granted:

The Early Childhood Education Certificate is awarded upon successful completion of the required courses listed in Semesters 1-4. The Infant/Toddler Educator Diploma is awarded upon successful completion of the required courses listed in Semesters 1-6.

Minimum Course Grade: A minimum grade of C

Program Average: A minimum program grade point average of 3.0/10 (C average)

Progression Requirements:

Refer to Policy 2.1.10 Progression and Re-Admission

Delivery Methods: Online, On-Campus (Face-to-Face)

Credits: 72

Instructional Activity and Hours:

Activity	Hours
Classroom, Directed Studies or Online Instruction	825
Seminar/Tutorials	
Laboratory/Studio	
Practicum/Field Experience	625
Co-op/Work Experience	
Other	
Total	1450

Admission Requirements:

- Earned a minimum grade of C+ (65%) in at least 1 of the following:
 - [ENST 12](#) – English Studies 12
 - [ENFP 12](#) – English First Peoples 12
 - [ENGL090](#) – English – Provincial Level

Non-Academic Admission Requirements:

- Completion and submission of CYFS Application package.
- Completion of immunizations, documented by the immunization form in the admission package, or completion of the immunization waiver form (lack of immunizations may

impact applicant access to Practicum placements and employment opportunities following graduation).

- Solicitor General Criminal Record Check. Note: Conviction of a criminal offence may influence an applicant's access to practicum placements and employment opportunities following graduation.

Program Completion Requirements:

Year 1

39 Total Credits

- Complete all of the following
Fall Semester (Semester 1)
 - Completed the following:
 - [CYFS101](#) – Inclusive Interpersonal Communications (3)
 - [CYFS102](#) – Observing & Recording (3)
 - [ECED105](#) – Developing Positive Relationships With Young Children (3)
 - [ECED129](#) – Introduction to Early Childhood Education (3)Winter Semester (Semester 2)
 - Completed the following:
 - [ECED131](#) – Principles of Program Development (3)
 - [ECED150](#) – Guiding Behaviours with Young Children (4)
 - [ECED125](#) – Introduction to Practicum (3)
 - [CYFS116](#) – Child Growth and Development (4)
 - [ECED137](#) – Creating Curriculum With Young Children 1 (3)Spring Semester (Semester 3)
 - Completed the following:
 - [ECED113](#) – Health, Safety and Nutrition (3)
 - [ECED138](#) – Creating Curriculum With Young Children 2 (3)
 - [ECED126](#) – Practicum 1 (4)

Year 2

36 Total Credits

- Complete all of the following
Fall Semester (Semester 4)
 - Completed the following:
 - [ECED120](#) – Introduction of Professional Practice (3)
 - [ECED149](#) – Studies in Diversity (3)
 - [ECED106](#) – Introduction to Working with Families (3)
 - [ECED128](#) – Practicum 2 (4)Winter Semester (Semester 5)
 - Completed the following:
 - [ECED213](#) – Advanced Health, Safety and Nutrition (3)
 - [ECED218](#) – Planning Programs for Infants & Toddlers (4)
 - [ECED201](#) – Advanced Child Growth & Development (4)

- ECED206 – Working with Families (3)
- Spring Semester (Semester 6)
- Completed the following:
 - ECED208 – Supervision and Administration (3)
 - ECED229 – Infant and Toddler Practicum (6)

Grand Total Credits: 75

Program Completion Requirements Notes:

Successful completion of all Year 1 courses is required for the Early Childhood Education Certificate. A student must complete the certificate within three years (36 months) from the start date.

Successful completion of all Year 2 courses is required for the Early Childhood Education Diploma. A student must complete the diploma within three years (36 months) from the start date.

Prior Learning and Recognition: Yes

Students are able to request formal recognition of their prior learning or experience outside the classroom. Challenge examination, portfolio-assisted assessment, work-based assessment or a combination of assessments that is appropriate to identify, assess, and recognize prior skills, competencies, and knowledge to achieve course credit. Tuition fees apply, refer to Policy 2.5.5 [Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition \(PLAR\)](#) or contact an education advisor for more information.

Program Transfer Credit:

For information about block transfer agreements between programs in British Columbia, Alberta, and elsewhere, please visit <http://www.cotr.bc.ca/transfer>.

To minimize transfer issues, check with an academic advisor at the institution that will receive the transfer credits.

Academic Policies:

College of the Rockies policies related to courses can be found at <https://cotr.bc.ca/about-us/college-policies/> and include the following:

- Policy 2.1.4 Course Audit
- Policy 2.4.1 Credential Framework
- Policy 2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities
- Policy 2.4.4 Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct
- Policy 2.4.8 Academic Performance
- Policy 2.4.9 Student Feedback and Concerns
- Policy 2.4.11 Storage of Academic Works
- Policy 2.5.3 Student Appeal
- Policy 2.5.5 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

Program Changes:

Information contained in this program outline is correct at the time of publication. Courses and course content may be revised from time to time based on changing educational, employment and marketing needs. The timetable may also be revised.

Course Descriptions: Refer to Course Outlines – <https://outlines.cotr.bc.ca/course/>