



**2017-2018 PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**  
**Degree: Technical Certificate**  
**Program of Study: Early Childhood Education Entry-Level Teacher**

**About This Major . . .**

The Early Childhood Education program is designed to prepare students to work with young children (birth to age eight) in a variety of settings. This certificate is designed for students wishing to work as lead teachers in a childcare classroom. Students who wish to work in licensed early childhood care and education programs may complete the sequence of courses for Early Childhood Education Entry-Level Teacher and then continue on to earn an Associate of Arts degree in Early Childhood Education. The Early Childhood Education Entry-Level Teacher certificate enables students to meet the educational qualifications established by the Colorado Department of Human Services.

For more information on what you can do with this major, go to <http://www.coloradomesa.edu/wccc/programs.html>.

All CMU certificate graduates are expected to demonstrate proficiency in critical thinking, communication fluency, quantitative fluency, and specialized knowledge/applied learning. In addition to these campus-wide student learning outcomes, graduates of this major will be able to:

1. Demonstrate effective written communication skills. (Communication Fluency)
2. Demonstrate effective written verbal skills (Communication Fluency)
3. Utilize mathematical skills required to assist the classroom teacher with instruction of young children (Quantitative Fluency)
4. Evaluate current professional resources relating to several different domains of early childhood education. (Critical Thinking)
5. Explain the impact of the Colorado Department of Child Care Rules and Regulations on children and families. (Specialized Knowledge)
6. Apply the National Association for the Education of Young Children principles and practices in interactions with young children, families and other professionals. (Applied Learning)

**Advising Process and DegreeWorks**

This document is intended for informational purposes to help determine what courses and associated requirements are needed to earn a certificate. Some courses are critical to complete in specific semesters while others may be moved around. Meeting with an academic advisor is essential in planning courses and discussing the suggested course sequencing. It is ultimately the student's responsibility to understand and fulfill the requirements for her/his intended certificate.

DegreeWorks is an online degree audit tool available in MAVzone. It is the official record used by the Registrar's Office to evaluate progress towards a certificate and determine eligibility for graduation. Students are responsible for reviewing their DegreeWorks audit on a regular basis and should discuss questions or concerns with their advisor or academic department head. Discrepancies in requirements should be reported to the Registrar's Office.

**Graduation Process**

Students must complete the following in the first two months of the semester prior to completing their certificate requirements (for one semester certificates complete in the first week of class):

- Review their DegreeWorks audit and create a plan that outlines how unmet requirements will be met in the final semester.
- Meet with their advisor and modify their plan as needed. The advisor must approve the final plan.
- Submit the "Intent to Graduate" form to the Registrar's Office to officially declare the intended graduation date and commencement ceremony plans.
- Register for all needed courses and complete all requirements for each degree sought.

Submission deadlines and commencement details can be found at <http://www.coloradomesa.edu/registrar/graduation.html>.

If a student's petition for graduation is denied, it will be her/his responsibility to consult the Registrar's Office regarding next steps.

### **INSTITUTIONAL CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS**

The following institutional requirements apply to all CMU technical certificates. Specific programs may have different requirements that must be met in addition to institutional requirements.

- Consists of 5-59 semester hours.
- Primarily 100-200 level courses.
- At least fifty percent of the credit hours must be taken at CMU.
- 2.00 cumulative GPA or higher in all CMU coursework.
- A grade lower than “C” will not be counted toward meeting the requirements.
- A course may only be used to fulfill one requirement for each degree/certificate.
- Non-traditional credit, such as advanced placement, credit by examination, credit for prior learning, cooperative education and internships, cannot exceed twenty-five percent of the semester credit hours required for a technical certificate.
- Pre-collegiate courses (usually numbered below 100) cannot be used for graduation.
- Capstone exit assessment/projects (e.g., Major Field Achievement Test) requirements are identified under Program-Specific Certificate Requirements.
- The Catalog Year determines which program sheet and certificate requirements a student must fulfill in order to graduate. Visit with your advisor or academic department to determine which catalog year and program requirements you should follow.
- See “Requirements for Undergraduate Degrees and Certificates” in the catalog for a complete list of graduation requirements.

### **PROGRAM-SPECIFIC CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS**

- 9 semester hours for the Technical Certificate in Early Childhood Entry-Level Teacher.
- 2.00 cumulative GPA or higher in all coursework.
- 2.00 cumulative GPA or higher in coursework toward the major.

### **TECHNICAL CERTIFICATE: EARLY CHILDHOOD ENTRY-LEVEL TEACHER REQUIREMENTS** (9 semester hours)

- ECEC 101 - Introduction to Early Childhood (3)
- One of the following:
  - EDEC 103 - Guidance Strategies (3)
  - EDEC 113 - Infant and Toddler Theory and Practice (3)
  - EDEC 238 - Early Childhood Development 0-8 Years (3)
- One of the following:
  - EDEC 102 - Introduction to Early Childhood Lab (3)
  - EDEC 114 - Infant/Toddler Lab Techniques (3)
  - EDEC 299 - Student Teaching (3)

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### **SUGGESTED COURSE SEQUENCING**

#### **Freshman Year, Fall Semester: 6 credits**

- EDEC 101 - Introduction to Early Childhood (3)
- EDEC 103 - Guidance Strategies (3) **or** EDEC 113 - Infant/Toddler Theory and Practice (3) **or** EDEC 238 - Early Childhood Development 0-8 Years (3)

#### **Freshman Year, Spring Semester: 3 credits**

- EDEC 102 - Intro Early Childhood Prof Lab Exp (3) **or** EDEC 114 - Intro Infant/Toddler Lab Techniques (3) **or** EDEC 299 - Student Teaching/Early Childhood Ed (3)
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