About This Major . . .

The Early Childhood Education program is designed to prepare students to work with young children 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 Teacher and may then continue on to earn an Associate of Arts degree in Early Childhood Education. The Early Childhood Education 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](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 instruct young children (Quantitative Fluency)
4. Evaluate current professional resources relating to several different domains of early childhood education. (Critical Thinking)
5. Create documents that are substantially error-free for children and families using current early childhood professional terminology (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)
Students should work closely with a faculty advisor when selecting and scheduling courses prior to registration. See the “Undergraduate Graduation Requirements” in the catalog for additional graduation information.

Degree Requirements:
- 2.00 cumulative GPA or higher in all coursework
- 2.00 cumulative GPA or higher in coursework toward the major content area
- A student must follow the CMU graduation requirements either from 1) the program sheet for the major in effect at the time the student officially declares a major; or 2) a program sheet for the major approved for a year subsequent to the year during which the student officially declares the major and is approved for the student by the department head. Because a program may have requirements specific to the degree, the student should check with the faculty advisor for additional criteria. It is the student’s responsibility to be aware of, and follow, all requirements for the degree being pursued. Any exceptions or substitutions must be approved by the student’s faculty advisor and Department Head.

Required Early Childhood Education Courses (16 Semester Hours)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course No</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Sem.hrs</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDEC 101</td>
<td>Introduction to Early Childhood</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td>EDEC 113 Infant and Toddler Theory and Practice</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDEC 102</td>
<td>Introduction to Early Childhood Lab</td>
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<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td>EDEC 114 Infant/Toddler Lab Techniques</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td>EDEC 299 Student Teaching</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDEC 103</td>
<td>Guidance Strategies</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>EDEC 122</td>
<td>Ethics in Early Childhood Education</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDEC 240</td>
<td>Curriculum &amp; Development in EC</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>EDEC 238</td>
<td>Early Childhood Development</td>
<td>3 credits</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total: 16 credits

SUGGESTED COURSE SEQUENCING FOR A TECHNICAL CERTIFICATE IN Early Childhood Teacher

This is a recommended sequence of course work. Certain courses may have prerequisites or are only offered during the Fall or Spring semesters. It is the student’s responsibility to meet with their advisor and check the 2 year course matrix on the Colorado Mesa website for course availability.

First Semester                      Hours
EDEC 101 Introduction to Early Childhood
OR
EDEC 113 Infant/Toddler Theory and Practice
EDEC 103 Guidance Strategies
EDEC 122 Ethics in Early Childhood Education

Second Semester                      Hours
EDEC 102 Introduction to Early Childhood Lab
OR
EDEC 114 Infant/Toddler Lab Techniques
OR
EDEC 299 Student Teaching
EDEC 240 Curriculum & Development in EC
EDEC 238 Early Childhood Development
POLICIES:
1. Please see the catalog for a complete list of graduation requirements.
2. This program sheet must be submitted with your graduation planning sheet to your advisor during the semester prior to the semester of graduation, no later than October 1 for spring graduates, no later than March 1 for fall graduates. You must turn in your “Intent to Graduate” form to the Registrar’s Office by September 15 if you plan to graduate the following May, and by February 15 if you plan to graduate the following December.
3. Your advisor will sign and forward the Program Sheet and Graduation Planning Sheet to the Department Head for signature. Finally, the Department Head will submit the signed forms to the Registrar’s Office. (Students cannot handle the forms once the advisor signs.)
4. If your petition for graduation is denied, it will be your responsibility to reapply for graduation in a subsequent semester. Your “Intent to Graduate” does not automatically move to a later graduation date.
5. NOTE: During your final year, you will be required to take a capstone exit assessment/project (e.g., Major Field Achievement Test).