

Early Childhood Education Director Specialized Credit Diploma (ECDD)

This program is intended for students who already hold a credential in Teacher Education and are currently employed and/or plan to move into a director or assistant director position. The primary purpose of this program is to enhance knowledge and skills for early childhood directors/administrators. This specialized credit diploma program qualifies as the PA Pathways Director Core Certificate program.

Upon successful completion of this program, graduates will be able to:

- formulate a program management plan.
- demonstrate active participation in professional development and leadership endeavors.
- advocate for best practices through collaborative relationships with families and staff in an early childhood center.

Courses		Credits
ECE 225 or EDU 210*	The Early Childhood Professional Behavior Management and Guidance Practices	3
ECE 230	The Director With Vision	3
ECE 235	Program Organization and Management	3
Credit Total		9

*Fieldwork Experience – this course requires observation and/or fieldwork in a childhood education classroom. Students must obtain and maintain the appropriate clearances (through CastleBranch Account) to work within a childcare facility.

Program Notes

For students entering this program, they will earn the 9 post-graduate credits required for eligibility for the PA Directors Credential, however they will also need to meet a number of other eligibility requirements on their own through previously demonstrated credit-bearing work in ECE, supervisory work at their place of employment, and professional contributions.

It is important to note that students enrolling in this program may have an Associate's Degree or higher in Early Childhood Education or Education but also may have a degree in a related human service field. Therefore, they should be aware that to be eligible to apply for their credential after the completion of this program, they must have 18 total credits in ECE on their transcripts. If they are unable to meet that 18 credit minimum, they will need to complete additional elective coursework to satisfy the credentialing requirements.

Full details on candidate eligibility can be found at <https://www.pakeys.org/get-professional-development/credentials-degrees/director-credential/>