

## Early Childhood Education A.A.S. (ECE)

The Early Childhood Education A.A.S. (ECE) at Lehigh Carbon Community College is accredited by the Commission on the Accreditation of Early Childhood Higher Education Programs of the National Association for the Education of Young Children, [www.naeyc.org](http://www.naeyc.org). The accreditation term runs from May 2018 through March 2023.

This program prepares the graduate to work with children aged birth through nine. Students who complete the A.A.S. in Early Childhood Education are qualified as a group supervisor or head teacher in an early care and education program, including Head Start classrooms and childcare centers with children in infant/toddler, preschool or school-age care. With additional experience, graduates can be qualified to be Center Directors. Students who transfer to four-year colleges work towards Pre-K to fourth grade teacher certification for employment in early childhood or elementary school settings.

Students seeking to transfer and interested in seeking teaching certification must consult with an advisor or counselor to select electives in careful accordance with the general education and/or pre-professional requirements of the four-year college or university to which students intend to transfer. Student seeking transfer are highly recommended to:

- Identify transfer institution early and carefully follow advisor, college catalog, college web page along with transfer agreement.
- Maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- Successfully complete six credits in math and immediately take PAPA exam.
- Maintain a credential portfolio.

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

- apply theories of child development in classroom application.
- demonstrate knowledge of diverse family and community contexts through the use of applicable community resources.
- evaluate classroom environments and interactions through the use of developmentally appropriate observation and screening tools.
- apply a broad repertoire of developmentally appropriate and culturally and linguistically relevant, anti-bias, and evidence-based teaching approaches that reflect the principles of universal design for learning.
- analyze the content of academic disciplines (eg. Language and literacy, the arts, mathematics, social studies, science, technology and engineering, physical education) and of pedagogical methods for each teaching discipline.
- develop and present a professional self through the application of codes of ethics, rich communication skills, and reflective an intentional practice.

| First Semester       |  | Credits |
|----------------------|--|---------|
| EDU 114              | Careers in Education   | 1       |
| ECE 110*             | Fundamentals of Early Childhood Education                                    | 3       |
| ECE 120* or ECE 125* | Children's Growth and Development Education and Care of Infants and Toddlers | 3       |
| ENG 105              | Research and Composition   | 3       |
| MAT 125              | Fundamentals of Mathematics I  | 3       |
| Elective             | Political Science, Psychology or Sociology                                   | 3       |
|                      |  | 16      |

| Second Semester |  | Credits |
|-----------------|--|---------|
| ECE 130*        | Integrating the Arts and Play in Early Childhood | 3       |
| ECE 140*        | Observation and Recording Techniques             | 3       |
| EDU 105*        | Introduction to Special Education                | 3       |
| ENG 106         | Introduction to Literature                       | 3       |
| MAT 126         | Fundamentals of Mathematics II                   | 3       |
|                 |  | 15      |

| Third Semester |   | Credits |
|----------------|---|---------|
| ECE 210*       | Integrating Curriculum in Early Childhood | 3       |
| ECE 215*       | Language and Literacy                     | 3       |
| Elective       | History or Geography                      | 3       |
| Elective       | Lab Science                               | 4       |
| Elective       | General Elective                          | 3       |
|                |   | 16      |

| Fourth Semester |   | Credits |
|-----------------|---|---------|
| ECE 218         | Communities and Family                          | 3       |
| ECE 221+        | Advanced Fieldwork in Early Childhood Education | 3       |
| ECE 225         | The Early Childhood Professional                | 3       |
| Elective        | Humanities                                      | 3       |
| Elective        | General Education                               | 3       |
|                 |   | 15      |

**Credit Total 62**

Teacher Education Advisement guidelines for students seeking a teaching career and/or program of study for transfer into a four-year college program.

Students can select and tailor their program based on career goals.

Students intending to transfer need to choose courses based on the college transfer agreement.

Recommended Electives:

Science Electives: BIO 101, 105, CHE 105, PHY 101.

\*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.

+Advanced Fieldwork (156 practicum hours) in a classroom setting with young children.

Up to 15 ECE credits can be transferred from a regionally accredited college. It is highly preferred that ECE credits transfer from a NAEYC Accredited ECE program of study.