
Post-Secondary Institutions Offering Training in Early Childhood Education

Early childhood education training is structured to teach both the theoretical and practical sides of early childhood development for children up to age 12 years, with a focus on the years before age 6.

Course content covers basic health, safety, behaviour, and development as well as how to understand children's environments and mechanisms of early learning. Students learn to plan early childhood education curriculums for a variety of levels, and develop writing and communication skills to work with children, families, and colleagues.

Many ECE programs include field placement opportunities, placing students in a variety of settings for real-world experience such as in preschools, child care centres, hospitals, and Kindergarten.

Many colleges offer this program at entry level, meaning only a secondary school diploma or equivalent is required.

Additional requirements could include health certificates and immunizations, police record checks, first aid training, and admissions testing. Experience working with young children is seen as a definite asset and is required by institutions.

Early Childhood Education Careers

Early childhood education credentials can lead to a number of positions, including but not limited to:

- Early childhood educator working in licensed child care or Kindergarten/pre-Kindergarten
- Early intervention services
- Program consulting and support
- Quality assessment
- Family support services
- Health and community services, such as shelters and emergency response
- Immigration and settlement services

ATLANTIC CANADA

The Atlantic provinces offer recognized early childhood training in twelve public and three private institutions. All public institution programs have a prerequisite of a high school diploma or a previous college diploma, or bachelor degree. Private institutions require an interview and high school equivalency. Distance learning options are available.

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

One public college offers ECE certificate and diploma programs.

[College of the North Atlantic](#)

- One year certificate or two year diploma options: offering full- and part-time enrolment in three different ECE streams.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Two public colleges offer ECE certificate and diploma programs.

[Collège de l'île](#)

- One year certificate or two year diploma

[Holland College](#)

- Two year diploma
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NOVA SCOTIA

Four colleges and two universities offer ECE certificate, diploma and degree programs.

Public colleges offering two year diploma programs with full- and part-time enrolment:

[Jane Norman College](#)

[Nova Scotia Community College](#)

[Nova Scotia School of Early Childhood Education](#)

Universities

[Mount Saint Vincent University](#)

- Four year Bachelor of Arts in Child and Youth Studies with full- and part-time enrolment and remote learning options.

[Université Sainte-Anne](#)

Private College

[CBBC Career College](#)

- 48-week program

[Island Career Academy](#)

NEW BRUNSWICK

Four colleges and one university offer ECE certificate, diploma and degree programs.

Public colleges offering a one year certificate program:

[Collège communautaire du Nouveau Brunswick- CCNB](#)

[New Brunswick Community College](#)

[Union of New Brunswick Indians Training Institute](#)

University:

[University of New Brunswick](#)

- Bachelor of Education in Early Childhood Education is an online blended degree program (diploma plus university courses) that allows the graduate to work with children from infancy to Grade 3.

Private college:

[Oulton College](#)

- Two year degree program

QUEBEC

17 Cégep, eight colleges and three universities offer ECE certificate, diploma and degree programs.

[Cégeps](#) are public schools providing the first level of post-secondary education. Qualified ECEs complete three years at a Cégep followed by a two or three year college course.

Cégeps:

[Cégep de Beauce-Appalaches](#)

[Cégep de Drummondville](#)

[Cégep de Granby-Haute-Yamaska](#)

[Cégep de Jonquière](#)

[Cégep de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue](#)

[Cégep de l'Outaouais](#)

[Cégep de Rimouski](#)

[Cégep de Rivière-du-Loup](#)

[Cégep de Saint-Hyacinthe](#)

[Cégep de Saint-Jérôme](#)

[Cégep de Sainte-Foy](#)

[Cégep de Sherbrooke](#)

[Cégep de Vieux Montréal](#)

[Cégep Heritage College](#)

[Cégep Marie-Victorin](#)

[Cégep régional de Lanaudière](#)

[Cégep St-Félicien](#)

Colleges offering two and three year diploma programs:

[Collège CDI](#)

[Collège de Valleyfield](#)

[Collège Édouard-Montpetit](#)

[Collège LaSalle](#)

[Collège Montmorency](#)

[Collège Shawinigan](#)

[Collège TAV](#)

[Vanier College](#)

Universities:

[Concordia University](#)

- [Early Childhood and Elementary Teacher Certification Program \(ECEE\)](#)
- [Child Studies BA Major](#)
- [Child Studies MA](#)

[Université de Sherbrooke](#)

[Université TÉLUQ](#)

ONTARIO

28 colleges and six universities offer a range of programs, including a one year certificate for early childhood assistants, a two year diploma (the minimum qualification for recognition by the College of Early Childhood Educators), and four year degrees. Agreements between selected colleges and universities allow ECE diploma holders to add two years at a university to earn an ECE degree. Full- and part-time options are available, along with distance learning.

Public colleges:

[Algonquin College of Applied Arts and Technology](#)

[Anishinabek Educational Institute](#)

- [Native Early Childhood Education Diploma](#)

[Cambrian College](#)

[Canadore College](#)

[Centennial College](#)

[Collège Boréal](#)

[Conestoga College](#)

[Confederation College](#)

[Durham College](#)

[Fanshawe College](#)

[Fleming College](#)

[George Brown College](#)

[Georgian College](#)

[Humber College](#)

[La Cité collégiale](#)

[Lambton College](#)

[Loyalist College](#)

[Mohawk College](#)

[Niagara College](#)

[Northern College](#)

[Sault College](#)

[Seneca College](#)

[Sheridan College](#)

[St. Clair College](#)

[St. Lawrence College](#)

Private colleges:

[Anderson College](#)

- [Early childcare assistant](#)

[Evergreen College](#)

- [Early childhood assistant](#)

[Mothercraft College](#)

12-month ECE course enables graduates to register with the College of Early Childhood Educators.

Universities:

[Carleton University](#)

- [Child Studies – BA Honours](#)
- [Child Studies – BA General](#)

[University of Guelph](#)

- [Honours Bachelor of Applied Science in Early Childhood & Diploma in Early Childhood Education](#)
- [Early Childhood Degree Completion – Honours Bachelor of Applied Science in Early Childhood](#)
- [Family and Child Studies Honours BA](#)

[Ryerson University](#)

- [Early Childhood Education BA](#)
- [Early Childhood Studies MA](#)
- [Early Childhood Education BA](#)
- [BA in Early Childhood Education Degree Completion](#)

[University of Windsor](#)

- [Concurrent BA/BEd/ECE – Arts & Education and Early Childhood Education](#)

[York University](#)

- [Early Childhood Education Graduate Diploma](#)
- [Children’s Studies BA](#)

Private university:

[Charles Sturt University](#)

- [Bachelor of Early Childhood Studies, Honours](#)

MANITOBA

Five colleges offer two year diploma programs. Four universities provide advanced diploma programs or allow students to combine their ECE diploma with a three-year Bachelor of Arts degree in Child Development and Child Care.

Colleges:

[Assiniboine Community College](#)

[Louis Riel Vocational College](#)

[Manitoba Institute of Trades & Technology](#)

[Red River College](#)

[Robertson College](#)

Universities:

[University College of the North](#)

[Université de Saint-Boniface](#)

[University of Manitoba](#)

[University of Winnipeg](#)

SASKATCHEWAN

Seven colleges offer two year diplomas with full- and part-time options. Two universities provide extension courses for educators or allow students to study for their early childhood specialty certificate concurrently with a Bachelor of Education degree.

Colleges:

[Carlton Trail Regional College](#)

[Great Plains College](#)

[Lakeland College](#)

[Parkland Regional College](#)

[Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technology](#)

[Saskatchewan Polytechnic](#)

[Southeast Regional College](#)

Universities:

[University of Regina](#)

[University of Saskatchewan](#)

ALBERTA

Twelve colleges and four universities offer one year certificate programs and two year diploma courses, on a full- or part-time basis. ECE diploma holders may apply directly for entry into the third year of the Bachelor of Child Studies degree program.

Colleges:

[Blue Quills First Nations College](#)

[Bow Valley College](#)

[CDI College](#)

[Grande Prairie Regional College](#)

[Keyano College](#)

[Lakeland College](#)

[Lethbridge College](#)

[Medicine Hat College](#)

[Northern Lakes College](#)

[Northern Lights College](#)

[Portage College](#)

[Red Deer College](#)

Universities:

[University of Alberta](#)

[Concordia University of Edmonton](#)

[MacEwan University](#)

[Mount Royal University](#)

- Bachelor of Child Studies, with an ECE major
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BRITISH COLUMBIA

Thirteen colleges and seven universities offer one year certificate, two year diploma, and four year degree programs on a full- or part-time basis. Successful completion of the first two years of an ECE degree program allows holders to apply for their ECE certificate to practice. An ECCE degree also provides holders with a pathway to elementary teacher education certification.

Colleges:

[Camosun College](#)

[Coast Mountain College](#)

[College of New Caledonia](#)

[College of the Rockies](#)

[Douglas College](#)

[Langara College](#)

[Nicola Valley Institute of Technology](#)

[North Island College](#)

[Northern Lights College](#)

[Okanagan College](#)

[Selkirk College](#)

[Stenberg College](#)

[Vancouver Community College](#)

Universities:

[Capilano University](#)

[Simon Fraser University](#)

[Thompson Rivers University](#)

[University of British Columbia](#)

[University of the Fraser Valley](#)

[University of Victoria](#)

[Vancouver Island University](#)

YUKON

One college offers one year certificate and two year diploma programs.

[Yukon College](#)

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

One college offers one year certificate and two year diploma programs.

[Aurora College](#)

NUNAVUT

One college offers one year certificate and two year diploma programs.

[Nunavut Arctic College](#)
