

Washington State Stackable Certificates

Early Childhood Education (ECE) Statewide Credentials

In Washington, early learning professionals who want to further their education have a clear path to follow: Colleges across the state offer common courses, course titles, course numbers, course descriptions and student outcomes. All courses are aligned with the Washington State Core Competencies for Early Care and Education Professionals. They also allow students to earn “stackable” certificates: The courses that students are required to take will build on one another in a sequential manner and deepen levels of applied learning along the way.

1

The Initial Certificate (12 credits): Students can earn this certificate as the starting point of their careers or to continue their professional development. The certificate focuses on competencies comparable to those of the Child Development Associate (CDA). This provides the foundation for the ECE State Certificate and associate degree. Courses include a 5-credit Introduction to Early Childhood Education; a 5-credit Health, Safety and Nutrition course, and a 2-credit practicum to apply learning.

2

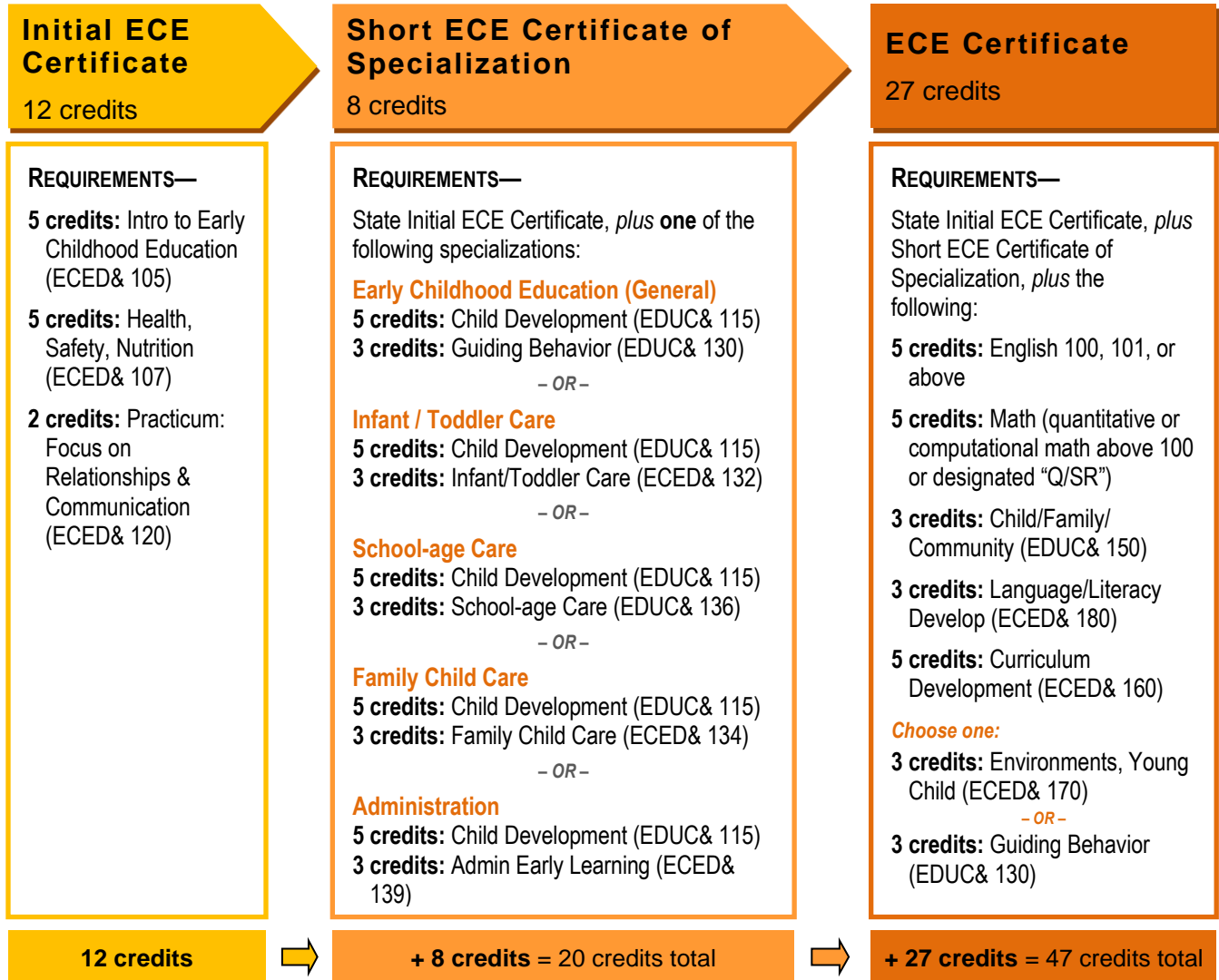
The ECE Short Certificate (8 credits): This certificate builds on the Initial Certificate (for a total of 20 credits). At this point, professionals can choose one of five specializations: ECE general, infant-toddler care, school-age care, family child care, and ECE administration. For each specialization, students must take a 5-credit Child Development course, plus a course aligned with the specific specialization.

3

The ECE State Certificate (27 credits): This final “stackable certificate” requires college-level math and English as a foundation for the next step: an associate degree in ECE. In addition to these general education requirements, the courses that students must take include Language and Literacy Development; Observation and Assessment; Child, Family and Community; Guiding Behavior; Environments for Young Children; and Curriculum Development. With all three certificates, the total number of credits earned by the student is 47.

The diagram on page 2 (below) summarizes the three certificates and required coursework. Contact your local community or technical college for details about course offerings. (**For a list of colleges, see page 3.**)

WASHINGTON STATE STACKABLE CERTIFICATES



Where can I earn stackable certificates?

The following community and technical colleges offer the courses required for the state initial certificate. For more information, contact the person listed or your local college.

Bates Technical College

Contact: Heather Robison
Parent-Infant and Toddler Faculty, Child Studies Dept.
Bates Technical College
253-680-7511
hrobison@bates.ctc.edu

Bellevue College

Contact: Dee Dee Orcajo
Program Chair, Early Childhood Education
Bellevue College
425-564-5087
w.orcajo@bellevuecollege.edu

Big Bend Community College

Contact: Jenny Nighswonger
Early Childhood Instructional Designer
Big Bend Community College
(509) 793-2216
jennyn@bigbend.edu

Centralia College

Contact: Megan Eastman-Zigler
Program Coordinator, Child and Family Studies
Centralia College
360-736-9391 Ext. 642
Megan.zigler@centralia.edu

Clark College

Contact: Debi Jenkins
Department Head, Early Childhood Education
Clark College
360-992-2535
DJenkins@clark.edu

Columbia Basin College

Contact: Carolyn Fazzari
Early Childhood Education
Columbia Basin College
509-542-4624
cfazzari@columbiabasin.edu

Edmonds Community College

Contact: Connie Schatz
Early Childhood Education Department Head and Faculty
Edmonds Community College
425-640-1612
cschatz@email.edcc.edu

Everett Community College

Contact: Michelle Barnes
Early Childhood Education
Everett Community College
425-388-9976
mbarnes@everettcc.edu

Grays Harbor College

Contact: Mike Kelly
Dean, Workforce Education
Grays Harbor College
360-538-4013
mkelly@ghc.edu

Green River Community College

Contact: Diana Holz
Early Childhood Education
Green River Community College
253-833-9111 Ext. 4334
dholz@greenriver.edu

Highline Community College

Contact: Jodi White
Faculty & Program Coordinator, Early Childhood Education
Highline Community College
206-592-4085
JWhite@highline.edu

Lake Washington Institute of Technology

Contact: Shanti Connors
Faculty & Advisor, Early Childhood Education
Lake Washington Institute of Technology
425-739-8177
ShantiConnors@lwtech.edu

Lower Columbia College

Contact:
Sue Atkins Fields
Early Childhood Education
Lower Columbia College
360-442-2558
sakins-fields@lcc.ctc.edu
Ann Williamson
Early Childhood Education
Lower Columbia College
360-442-2892
awilliamson@lcc.ctc.edu

North Seattle College

Contact: Darline Guerrero
Early Childhood Education
North Seattle College
206-934-3749
Darline.Guerrero@seattlecolleges.edu

Northwest Indian College

Contact: Nahrin Aziz-Parsons
Early Childhood Education
Northwest Indian College
360-392-4308
nparsons@nwic.edu

Olympic College

Contact: Gayle Dilling
Early Childhood Education
Olympic College
360-475-7289
gdilling@olympic.edu

Peninsula College

Contact: Yvette Cline
Early Childhood Education Coordinator
Peninsula College
360-417-6495
YCline@pencol.edu

Pierce College Fort Steilacoom

Contact: Krissy Kim
Director of Education Programs/Professor of Early
Childhood Education
Pierce College Fort Steilacoom
253-964-6542
KMKim@pierce.ctc.edu

Pierce College Puyallup

Contact: Krissy Kim
Director of Education Programs/Professor of Early
Childhood Education
Pierce College Fort Steilacoom
253-964-6542
KMKim@pierce.ctc.edu

Renton Technical College

Contact: Barbara Culler
Early Childhood Education
Renton Technical College
425-235-2202
bculler@rtc.edu

Seattle Central College

Contact: Samantha Dolan
Early Childhood Education
Seattle Central College
206-934-4625
samantha.dolan@seattlecolleges.edu

Shoreline Community College

Contact: Betty Peace-Gladstone
Education Department
Shoreline Community College
206-546-4729
bpeace-g@shoreline.edu

Skagit Valley College

Contact: Barbara Martinez-Griego
Department Chair, Early Childhood Education
Skagit Valley College
360-416-7787
Barbara.Martinez-Griego@skagit.edu

South Puget Sound Community College

Contact: Chris Moon
Professor/Program Lead, Early Learning & Education
Programs
South Puget Sound Community College
360-596-5378
cmoon@spsc.edu

Spokane Falls Community College

Contact: Tennille O'Blenness
Early Childhood Education
Spokane Falls Community College
509-533-3095 tennille.oblenness@sfcc.spokane.edu

Walla Walla Community College

Contact: Samantha Bowen
Early Childhood Education
Walla Walla Community College
509-524-5142
Samantha.bowen@wwcc.edu

Wenatchee Valley College

Contact: Nancy Spurgeon
Early Childhood Education
Wenatchee Valley College
509-682-6633
nspurgeon@wvc.edu

Whatcom Community College

Contact: Kim Doyle
Program Coordinator Early Childhood Education
Whatcom Community College
360-383-3267
kdoyle@whatcom.ctc.edu

Yakima Valley Community College

Contact: Glenda Orgill
Faculty, Early Childhood Education
Yakima Valley Community College
509-574-4787
gorgill@yvcc.edu