

Community College of Philadelphia

Early Childhood Education

Shaping Children's Minds

The effects of a nurturing, appropriately stimulating environment and supportive human relationships on the mind of a very young child are profound. The field of early care and education, rapidly growing in national importance, is a study of what experiences, environments and relationships will lay the foundation for a child's success in school and life.

The Early Childhood Education program offers you the knowledge and skills necessary to provide children with a quality early care and educational experience that will shape their minds and their futures.

"Obtaining affordable, quality child day care, especially for children under age 5, is a major concern for many parents."

– Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2006-07 Edition*

The College offers the only associate's degree program in the city that focuses on educating children from birth to age 5. Many licensed childcare centers select this program for the professional development of their employees.

The Early Childhood Education program prepares you to enter the job market immediately after graduation. It features:

- custom designed, career-specific courses
- hands-on experiences in laboratory-like classes on campus
- two 96-hour supervised practicum experiences in child care settings

- a core of general education requirements related to this field

Hands-on activities include:

- developing activity materials
- creating learning environments
- selecting and evaluating age-appropriate books
- developing a professional portfolio

An added benefit is the expert faculty dedicated to sharing accumulated knowledge.

This program prepares you to work in child care centers, preschool programs, parent education centers and a variety of other settings.

Career Paths

The U.S. Department of Labor's *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2006-07 Edition*, says, "Obtaining affordable, quality child day care, especially for children under age



PHOTO COURTESY OF SHARON WOHLMUTH TEACHER

Early Childhood Education at Community College of Philadelphia

5, is a major concern for many parents.” *The Handbook* rates the child care industry among the fastest growing industries in the United States’ economy. It predicts that wage and salary jobs in this industry will grow 38 percent through 2014.

The Early Childhood Education Program

The A.A.S. program in Early Childhood Education provides opportunities to learn:

- appropriate styles of communication with adults and children
- development and implementation of age-appropriate curricula
- developmental milestones and how to support them
- skills for advocating for children and families

Salaries

With an A.A.S. in Early Childhood Education, you are qualified in Pennsylvania to own and operate a child care center, be the director of a center or be a lead teacher in a center. All of these salaries can range up to \$35,000.

Students who have previous child care experience or have earned a Child Development Associate Credential through select training organizations, including the College, may be eligible for up to six credits for life experience.

The program also offers a 13-credit Family Child Care certificate of completion that emphasizes skills for providing child care in a home setting. The certificate may be earned on its own or in conjunction with an associate’s degree in Early Childhood Education.

College Information

Visit the College Website at www.ccp.edu to find out about:

Academic Programs

www.ccp.edu/site/academic/

Admissions Process

www.ccp.edu/site/prospective/admissions_process.php

Transfer Agreements

www.ccp.edu/site/prospective/transfer_agreements/

Financial Aid

www.ccp.edu/site/prospective/financial_aid/

Scholarships and Awards

www.ccp.edu/site/current/scholarships/

College Life

www.ccp.edu/site/current/student_life/

Directions to the College

www.ccp.edu/site/locations/main.php

Graduates who choose to pursue a bachelor’s degree in early childhood education may transfer to four-year institutions such as West Chester University and Chestnut Hill College.

Areas of Study

This curriculum includes courses in Program Planning and Curriculum Development; Health, Safety and Nutrition for the Young Child; Children’s Literature; Parent Relations; and Language Development.

Additional Information

www.naeyc.org, www.dvaeyc.org,
www.pacca.org, www.nafcc.org

Admission to the College

We accept students on an open enrollment basis, meaning that applications are accepted at all times of the year. For registration information, call **215-751-8010** or e-mail **admissions@ccp.edu**.

Affirmative Action Statement

Community College of Philadelphia is committed to the principles of equal employment and equal educational opportunity for all persons without regard to race, color, ancestry, creed, national or ethnic origin, age, sexual orientation/preference, religion, sex, disability or status as a disabled veteran or veteran of the Vietnam Era, in the administration of its educational programs, activities, or employment in accordance with applicable Federal statutes and regulations. Any questions regarding this statement should be directed to the Director, Office of Diversity and Equity located in room M2-36; telephone number 215-751-8039.