

INTERDISCIPLINARY EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION



Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education

This program offers coursework that will develop or enhance a student's knowledge as an Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education (IECE) instructor. Those who successfully complete an Associate in Applied Science degree in IECE can work as a lead teacher in federally funded Head Start programs. Degree graduates can also transfer to public or private universities and complete the IECE certification program. Students with this certification can teach in public school, preschool, and kindergarten classes, or work as a Developmental Interventionist for the First Steps program in Kentucky. Courses in the program offer insight into the theories of early childhood education and teach students the practical application of these theories. Students are taught developmentally appropriate practices and learn an understanding of the whole child. IECE graduates are qualified to open their own early childhood education program. Most courses in the IECE program are available online.

Job Outlook

The field of IECE offers a growing number of career opportunities for graduates. In the past, early childhood education was not always viewed as a "true" profession; however, this outdated thinking has changed. Research with children, including those with special needs, shows that youngsters receiving instruction in their formative years will be more successful in all areas of their education. They are more successful in elementary school, middle school, and high school. IECE graduates understand that they are working with students during the most important period of their development. As a result, early childhood education has a lifelong impact on children. The IECE program at HCTC is an exciting area of study, and we welcome your interest.

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One Community College Drive | Hazard, KY 41701 | (606) 436-5721 | hazard.kctcs.edu



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KENTUCKY COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM

INTERDISCIPLINARY EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

	Credits
ENG101 Writing I	3
ENG102 Writing II	3
COM181 Basic Public Speaking OR	3
COM252 Introduction to Interpersonal Communication.....	(3)
PSY110 General Psychology	3
Heritage/Humanities/Foreign Language.....	3-4
Science.....	3
Mathematics.....	3
Computer literacy	0-3
<i>Computer literacy must be demonstrated either by competency exam or by completing a computer literacy course.</i>	
Subtotal	21-25

TECHNICAL CORE COURSES

IEC 101 Orientation to Early Childhood Education.....	3
IEC 102 Foundations of Early Childhood Education	3
IEC 120 Health, Safety, & Nutrition OR	3
KHP 230 Human Health & Wellness OR	(3)
NFS 101 Human Nutrition and Wellness.....	(3)
IEC 130 Early Childhood Development.....	3
IEC 170 Observation & Assessment OR.....	3
IEC 190 Applied Experiences in ECE	(3)
IEC 180 Approaches to ECE Curriculum.....	3
IEC 200 Child Guidance	3
IEC 216 Literacy and Language in IECE	3
IEC 221 Creative Expression in IECE	3
IEC 246 Sciences and Mathematics for IECE.....	3
IEC 235 Introduction to Inclusive Education	3
IEC 260 Infant and Toddler Ed and Programming	3
IEC 291 IECE Practicum/Cooperative Education	3
Subtotal	39

Choose one course from the following approved technical support elective courses:

IEC 210 Families & Communities in ECE.....	3
IEC 240 Administration of Early Childhood Education	3
IEC 250 School Age Child Care.....	3
Subtotal	3
Total Credits	63-67

*Students may take IEC 299 - Special Topics in IECE for 1 - 3 hours.

DEGREE/DIPLOMA/ CERTIFICATE OPTIONS

AAS—Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education	63-67
Diploma—IECE.....	48-51
Certificate—IECE Technical.....	42
Certificate—Child Care Assistant	9
Certificate—Kentucky Child Care Provider	3
Certificate—Early Childhood Administrator.....	9-12
Certificate—School Age Childcare	15

ADDITIONAL ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

In addition to completing HCTC's Admissions Process, all students enrolled in IECE courses must submit the material below for the Observation File that is required by all KCTCS IECE Programs.

- A negative TB skin test: Student must provide proof of negative TB skin test. Student can obtain this from any local health department, a family doctor, or provide a statement on doctor's letterhead with doctor's signature.
- CAN Check (\$10) and criminal background check (\$20), both are required. Forms and instructions are obtained from the IECE Program Coordinator.
- Confidentiality Statement: This must be signed, dated, and provided to the Program Coordinator.
- NAEYC Code of Ethical Conduct: This must be signed and provided to the Program Coordinator.
- Statement of Understanding: This statement agreeing to the rules, regulations, policies, and procedures, as stated, must be signed, dated, and provided to the Program Coordinator.

All the above information must be sent to the Program Coordinator by the date set by IECE Faculty. The Coordinator will keep the information on file as long as the student is continuously enrolled. It is the responsibility of the student to keep their information up-to-date.

CLASSES IN IECE CAN BECOME STATE AND NATIONAL CERTIFICATES

Early Childhood programs that are working on STARS ratings can utilize these certificates to increase your program's STAR level.

- Students completing IEC 101 with a passing grade can apply for the Commonwealth Child Care credential.
- Students completing any three courses with a passing grade in IECE (except IEC190/291) can use the hours of study in order to complete the coursework required by the Council for Professional Recognition for the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential.
- Students with a current CDA can receive up to nine hours of credit (IEC 101, IEC 102& IEC 190) toward a degree/certificate/diploma once the student has successfully completed an IECE course at HCTC with a passing grade.
- Students completing IEC 101/102/240/230 with a passing grade can apply for the Director's Credential by contacting the IECE Coordinator.
- Students who currently work in an Early Childhood program can use course work as training hours required by the Licensing and Regulations System, which currently requires up to 15 hours of training each year.
- Students in IECE courses must complete the course with a C or better to receive credit for the course and to be a candidate for all of these certificates.
- Requirements can change for these programs; always verify information with the IECE Program Coordinator.

Contact Information: Penny Whitaker Smith, IECE Program Coordinator
Phone: (606) 487-3160 or (800) 246-7521, Ext. 73160 | Email: psmith0091@kctcs.edu

Revised: 4/04/2017

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