



www.ColumbiaState.edu

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Columbia State
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION



Early Childhood Education is an education specialty designed to prepare individuals to work with children birth through third grade. Graduates of the two-year Early Childhood Education program may be employed as childcare assistants in public schools and teachers or assistants in private childcare centers, family childcare homes or Head Start programs.

Start your career today!

Success Starts Here

WHY CHOOSE COLUMBIA STATE ?

The Early Childhood program at Columbia State will prepare individuals for a career at various levels of the Early Childhood Education (birth through third grade) field. There are three educational levels to choose from. Course work will be seamless from the first step through the last. Each step is clearly defined.



Technical Certificate in Early Childhood Education

The certificate program includes Early Childhood Education college classes which provide information for students to prepare a developmentally appropriate curriculum and environment for children. The classes also stress appropriate techniques of working with children and their families to facilitate appropriate outcomes in Early Childhood development. Successful Technical Certificate graduates will be prepared to successfully complete the National Child Development Associate (C.D.A.). The classes are a portion of the process meeting competency goals for the national certificate, but are designed for any Early Childhood college student. The certificate from Columbia State Community College is not the C.D.A. certificate.



The Associate of Arts (A.A.) or Associate of Science (A.S)

The degree is one of the many “general transfer” degrees from Columbia State, but with an Early Childhood emphasis. The two-year degree is designed for students who wish to take the first two years of a four-year degree program at the community college level, or for students required to obtain a two-year degree for employment. Students may transfer to a senior institution and complete requirements for a teaching certificate. Transferring students generally must obtain a minimum grade point average of 2.75 and successfully pass the PRAXIS 1 examination prior to admittance at a senior institution. A student obtaining the A.A. degree, General Transfer, Early Childhood emphasis must obtain six additional hours of a single foreign language.



Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood (B.S)

The degree is currently available at Columbia State from TSU. Students entering this program must successfully obtain the A.S. or A.A. with the Early Childhood emphasis and complete the qualifying minimum standards prior to enrollment. TSU provides classes to cohorts of students in a sequence of classes either at Columbia State or online. Students in the program will apply to TSU and be considered a student of TSU.



TYPICAL JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates of the **technical certificate program** are typically employed in private childcare centers or family childcare homes. Students usually apply for the national C.D.A. The C.D.A. is a minimum qualification for the Tennessee star-quality child care program.

Graduates of the **Associate of Arts or Associate of Science** two-year degree programs are typically employed as public school assistants, Head Start teachers, assistants, or home visitors; private childcare centers and family childcare homes.

Graduates of the **Bachelor of Science** in Early Childhood Education program with TSU are typically employed as teachers in a public or private school or Head Start. They may also be employed with the State Department of Human Services as a site licensing counselor or other educational positions for companies not requiring advanced educational degree.

