Early Childhood Education (512)

Associate of Arts

ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

This program is designed for the student intending to transfer to a senior institution to complete a baccalaureate degree. With the completion of the specified ECE coursework, students will also complete a Level 3 Credential certificate. Students will be eligible to receive a Gateways to Opportunity Level 3 Credential due to the fact that the HCC Early Childhood Program is a Gateways Entitled Institution.

NATURE OF WORK AND EMPLOYMENT

Graduates of four-year baccalaureate programs in this major are typically employed as teachers in preschools and elementary schools, parent educators, early intervention educators, child development specialists, child care directors, Head Start lead teachers, and employees in civic/social organizations.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The listed coursework is a recommendation only. Students should check with a student advisor for HCC graduation requirements and specific university requirements in this major. ECE students must demonstrate good physical and emotional health as well as submit to and pass a background check before beginning fieldwork experiences with children.

PROGRAM CONTACTS

Call Highland at 815-235-6121 for the following program contacts:

- Scott Anderson, Dean of Business & Technology
- Melissa Johnson, Coordinator of Early Childhood Education
- Vicki Schulz, Student Advisor

RECOMMENDED COURSES

The following are recommended courses for this major only. Students must still meet all requirements for the Associate of Arts degree (see page 56) in order to graduate from Highland Community College. For more information, please see your student advisor.

*	ECE	121	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3
*	ECE	122	Child Growth and Development	3
*	ECE	123	Health, Safety, & Nutrition for Young Children	3
*	ECE	125	Assessment in EC Settings	3
*	ECE	202	Curriculum in EC Settings	3
*	ECE	203	Home, School, & Community Relations in EC	3
*	ECE	204	Exceptional Child in ECE	3

Early Childhood/Education Options (select one)

*	ECE	124	Literature for Young Children	3
*	EDUC	124	Diversity in Schools and Society	3
*	EDUC	224	Introduction to Special Education	3
*	EDUC	225	Educational Technology	3
*	PSY	261	Educational Psychology	3

* Course has a prerequisite. See course descriptions.