

Early Childhood Education (726)

Infant/Toddler Certificate

About Our Program

The Infant/Toddler certificate provides students with a specialized focus on the unique strengths and needs of infants and toddlers with particular focus on children and families that are culturally, linguistically and ability diverse. Students will study the comprehensive development of the young child, birth to three years, with a focus on understanding current brain research and best caregiving practices. Students will explore the process of designing infant/toddler environments that are individually, culturally and developmentally appropriate with focus on creating inclusive environments. This certificate is intended for students who already hold degrees or who have taken extensive coursework in other academic fields, but would like to build their knowledge and skills of working with infants, toddlers and their families.

Nature of Work and Employment

Infant/Toddler certificate holders work in licensed child care programs as teachers or assistant teachers or for home visiting programs such as Early Head Start or Prevention Initiative programs. Family child care providers are encouraged to use this program to upgrade their own training and preparation.

Special Considerations

Certificate students must demonstrate good physical and emotional health and submit to and pass a criminal background check. Students interested in pursuing a Gateways to Opportunity Infant/Toddler Credential need to speak with the Coordinator of the Early Childhood Program regarding additional requirements to qualify for credentials.

Program Contacts

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

- Scott Anderson, Vice President of Business, Technology, and Community Programs
- Melissa Johnson, Coordinator of Early Childhood Education
- Amanda Venhuizen, Student Advisor

Required ECE Courses

*	ECE	205	Intro to Infant/Toddler Care & Education	3
*	ECE	213	Inclusive Environments for Infants & Toddlers	3

Total Credit Hours = 6

* Course has a prerequisite. See course description.