

EARLY CHILDHOOD

60 credit AAS | 30 credit Certificate

THE PROGRAM

The Early Childhood program is an Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree or can be completed in one year through the certificate option. The program focuses on human growth and development, child behavior, and how development changes across early stages of life. Students develop communication skills needed to build positive relationships with children and families. Early childhood educators are needed in childcare facilities, recreation centers, Pre-K programs like Head Start, private home childcare, and other children's programs.

WHAT STUDENTS WILL GAIN

- Understanding of early childhood growth, development, and behavior
- Skills to support learning and development in young children
- Ability to communicate effectively with children and families in early learning environments
- Knowledge of practices used in early childhood care and education settings
- Preparation for work in childcare, Pre-K programs, and other early learning environments and careers in child development

CAREER OUTCOMES

Most universities, including those within the North Dakota University System (NDUS), are transfer-friendly. Associate of Arts (AA) degrees often fulfill first- and second-year general education requirements, and NDUS general education courses are consistent across institutions

Students planning to transfer should review requirements at their intended school, gather catalogs, and work with an advisor to build a course plan. Advisors help align electives with AA or AS degree requirements, and Student Services can provide information on LRSC transfer agreements.

ADVISORS/TRIO & POWERSKILLS

LRSC advisors help students build class schedules and select electives that support transfer requirements and upper-division coursework. TRiO & PowerSkills provide academic support, including tutoring, advising, study assistance, testing/proctoring, and disability services.

PROGRAM CONTACTS

For questions about the Early Childhood program at Lake Region State College, contact:

Taylor Hoffner
Instructor
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STUDENT SUCCESS TIPS



Schedule time with your advisor each semester to stay on track with your degree plan.

Use tutoring and academic support services when needed to build skills in subjects like math.

Get involved at LRSC through clubs, activities, and campus events to build connections and get the most out of your experience.

Stay on top of financial aid requirements and important deadlines, and contact the Financial Aid Office with any questions.



Over \$540,000 in scholarships is awarded to students each year. Complete the scholarship application on the LRSC website; one application applies to multiple scholarships, and awards are matched based on eligibility.

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First Semester	Credits
EC 210: Introduction to Early Childhood Education*	4
EC 233: Pre-K Methods and Materials	5
ENGL 110: College Composition I	3
PSYC 111: Introduction to Psychology	3
HPER 210: First Aid	2
Program Electives (certificate)	4
Second Semester	
COMM 110: Fundamentals of Public Speaking OR	3
ENGL 120: College Composition II	3
EC 222: Administration and Leadership in Early Childhood Education	3
EC 236: Social and Emotional Development and Guidance	3
NUTR 240: Principles of Nutrition	3
PSYC 250: Developmental Psychology	3
EC 297: Internship (certificate)	5
Program Electives (certificate)	4
Third Semester	
EDUC 250: Introduction to Education	3
SOC 220: The Family	3
General Education: Math/Science/Computer Science	3
Electives	5
Fourth Semester	
EC 220: Infants and Toddlers	4
EC 297: Internship	5
HPER 205: Physical Education for Elementary Children	2
HPER 210: First Aid	2
SPED 237: Special Needs in Early Childhood Education	3
Total AAS Credits	60
Total Certificate Credits	30

BOLD: One-year certificate courses

***EC 210 OR EC 220 required for certificate**

Certificate program electives: EDUC 250, ENGL 238, NUTR 240, PSYC 111, PSYC 250, SOC 220.