



EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE (ECPC) *CARING FOR CHILDREN THREE TO FIVE YEARS OLD—PRESCHOOL TRACK*

The Early Childhood Professional Certificate (ECPC) was formerly known as the Florida Child Development Associate (CDA). The ECPC program is the next step after the 40-Hour Entry Level Training Certification to continue on your pathway as a child care professional in a preschool setting.

Students who successfully complete this program and **work with children three to five years old** in a licensed childcare facility will be awarded a **staff credential** issued by the Florida Department of Children and Families.



EARLY CHILDHOOD & K-12 PROGRAMS

Early Childhood Professional Certificate (ECPC) PROGRAM OBJECTIVE CODE 5364

Course Description:

The Early Childhood Professional Certificate (ECPC) program includes 120 hours of preschool specialized coursework, a resource file and professional portfolio and two hour on-site observation in a preschool setting working with children ages three to five years old. Upon completion of the program, the student will be awarded an Early Childhood Professional Certificate (ECPC), staff credential from the Florida Department of Children and Families. *This course is offered in a Dual Language format in Spring Term.*

The following requirements must be met to be accepted into the ECPC program:

- Apply for admissions/readmissions to Palm Beach State College. *Students who have not taken a class in over one academic year must reapply for admission to the college.*
- Program Objective Code: **5364, Early Childhood Professional Certificate (ECPC)**
- ECPC Information Session (**Register at www.palmbeachstate.edu/programs/childcare**)
- 40-Hour Introductory Child Care Training Certification
- 5-Hour Understanding Developmentally Appropriate Practices**
- 5-Hour Preschool Appropriate Practices**
All DCF Competency Exams must be successfully completed for the requirements listed above.
- 5-Hour DCF Emergent Literacy course**
- Official high school or GED transcripts submitted to Palm Beach State College registrar's office
- Employed** in a licensed child care setting with children birth through 5 years old. **Volunteering is not accepted.**
- Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE - 11/12 Survey) - \$25.00
- 18 years of age or older
- Mastery of the English language

Career Path Notes:

Students who earn an Early Childhood Professional Certificate (ECPC) and have completed 15 college credits toward Palm Beach State College, Associate in Science degree in Early Childhood Education (Program Objective Code 2358) may be eligible to receive up to 9 college credits toward the A.S. degree upon request. The credits will be for the following courses: **EEC2734, EEC2271 & CHD1220.**

For more information about this articulation agreement, email martines@palmbeachstate.edu.

Program Director: Susy Martinez-White, martines@palmbeachstate.edu 561-868-3807
Program Assistant: Nancy Cabrera-Chambers, cabreran@palmbeachstate.edu 561-868-4041



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Required Text/Materials:

- 1) Dodge, Diane Koralek and Pizzolong, Peter J., Caring for Preschool Children, Washington, D.C., Teaching Strategies, Inc. **Approximate Cost: \$74.75**
- 2) CDA National Credentialing Program & CDA Competency Standards (Preschool Edition) **Approximate Cost: \$35.75**
- 3) ECPC Student Packet **Approximate Cost: \$11.75**

The ECPC program is divided into three modules (courses) covering the eight content areas for the Early Childhood Professional Certificate (ECPC) in which a student must demonstrate competence. This program can be completed in one semester.

This is a controlled access program. Students will not be able to register for ECPC Module I until they have been accepted to the program. Students must successfully complete each module in succession before continuing to the next module. Students will not be able to register for all three modules at one time.

Upon successful completion of all three modules, students will be awarded the Florida Department of Children and Families, Staff Credential.

Early Childhood Professional Certificate (ECPC) - Summer Schedule 2020

COURSE	REF #	START DATE	END DATE	DAY/TIME	LOCATION	FEES
HEV0130 Module I	266333	05/04/20	06/08/20	Mon/Wed 6:00-10:00pm	LW CRB109	\$111.20
HEV0131 Module II	269249	06/10/20	07/13/20	Mon/Wed 6:00-10:00pm	LW CRB109	\$111.20
HEV0132 Module III	277846	07/15/20	08/17/20	Mon/Wed 6:00-10:00pm	LW CRB109	\$144.52



EARLY CHILDHOOD & K-12 PROGRAMS

EARLY CHILDHOOD CERTIFICATES AND DEGREE PROGRAMS

Financial assistance is available for many of the child care courses offered at Palm Beach State College through the SEEK and TEACH scholarships.

SEEK Scholarship Eligibility requirements:

- Employed at any early childhood program in Palm Beach County that receives public funding (i.e., school readiness, VPK, Head Start) and working directly with children ages 0–5 years
- Active member of the Palm Beach County Early Childhood Registry www.pbcregistry.org
- **Contact the SEEK Office for the SEEK Scholarship Deadline Date.**

For more information call **561-868-3662**.

TEACH Early Childhood Scholarship Eligibility requirements:

Child care center teachers, directors, owners and family child care providers may be eligible for a scholarship if they meet the following criteria:

- Florida residents
- High school diploma from an accredited high school or GED
- Employed by a licensed or license-exempt child care facility
- Work a minimum of 20 hours per week in a classroom with a birth through Pre-K population (directors are exempt from the "classroom" portion of this requirement)
- Employer sponsorship
- Work a minimum of 520 hours per year

For more information call **877-FL TEACH (877-358-3224)**

For more information, visit our webpage at:

www.palmbeachstate.edu/career-pathways/pathway-education.aspx



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