

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Program Number: 10-307-1

Associate of Applied Science Degree

Campus: Fond du Lac, West Bend

This program is eligible for financial aid (<http://www.morainepark.edu/financial-aid/>)

The Early Childhood Education associate degree program at Moraine Park prepares students for their journey as educators, setting the stage for graduates to work as teachers and caregivers in two years.

About the Program

For students in the Early Childhood Education program, no day will be alike. Students in the program balance both academic coursework and practical experience, gaining hands-on experience at local child care centers. Students gain practice guiding child behavior and working cooperatively with staff and parents. This program has daytime courses offered at our Fond du Lac campus and evening courses offered at our West Bend campus, with some courses available online.

What You'll Learn

Students in the Early Childhood Education program learn to care for and educate children while playing a key role in children's development. Graduates will know how to maintain a clean and safe environment, as well as plan educational activities and assess child growth and progress. Graduates of the program are prepared to work with children from birth to 8-year age range and are well-prepared for a variety of Early Childhood Education jobs.

Scholarships may be available for students who are employed in a licensed child care center or a licensed or certified family child care program. Applicants must have the support of their employer and possess a high school diploma or GED. Scholarships for the Early Childhood Administrative Credential Certificate are available through the Wisconsin Early Childhood Association T.E.A.C.H. program (<http://wisconsinearlychildhood.org/programs/t-e-a-c-h/>).

Transfer Opportunities

Your academic journey can continue at a four-year college or university. Earn your associate degree at Moraine Park and then apply those credits toward a bachelor's degree. Starting at MPTC makes completing a bachelor's degree **affordable, accessible** and **convenient**. You can go anywhere as MPTC has transfer agreements with colleges and universities both in Wisconsin and throughout the country.

Visit the Transfer to a Four-Year College (<https://www.morainepark.edu/transfer-to-a-four-year-college/>) page for more information on credit transfer agreements between Moraine Park and four-year colleges, both public and private.

Additional Information

State Licensure Disclosure: Moraine Park Technical College offers programs designed to meet the educational requirements leading to licensure or certification that may be required for employment in certain professions. See Professional Licensure and Certification Disclosure

(<https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/professional-licensure/>) for more details.

Important:

This program does not **require a Criminal Background Check at the point of admission**, but a Criminal Background Check will be required. Students will need to successfully pass a Criminal Background Check to progress in and complete the program. Students will receive information regarding completing this requirement before being placed working/observing in a child care facility.

Please Note:

Moraine Park Technical College does not guarantee

1. Placement to field experience sites;
2. Potential or future employment eligibility beyond graduation;
3. Ability to sit for licensure or certification exams or achievement of credentials related to licensure or certification.

Taking a course within the Early Childhood Education curriculum prior to completing and passing a criminal background check does not guarantee enrollment in any one of the four field experience courses required for program completion.

More information regarding barred offenses that may impact a person's ability to work at a child care center can be found here: <http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/publications/pdf/5206.pdf>

Admission Process

Standard Admissions (<http://www.morainepark.edu/admissions/new-student/how-to-apply-for-admissions/>) steps details

This program also requires:

- Health Requirements

Credit for Prior Learning

Transform the skills and abilities developed through previous experience into college credit through MPTC's Credit for Prior Learning process.

- Transfer credit from other colleges/universities
- Earn college credit for your military training and experience
- Earn college credit via Advance Placement, CLEP, DANTES/DSST or MPTC Challenge Exams
- Earn college credit from previous/current work and life experiences

Visit MPTC's Credit for Prior Learning (<https://www.morainepark.edu/academics/credit-for-prior-learning/>) page for more information.

Approximate Costs

NOTE: The fees below are 2025-2026 fees. They will be updated when 2026-2027 fees are approved.

Tuition

Occupational

- \$152.85 per credit (resident)
- \$229.28 per credit (out-of-state resident)

Associate of Arts/Associate of Science

- \$192.20 per credit (resident)
- \$288.30 per credit (out-of-state resident)

Online students are not charged out-of-state fees.

Student Fees

- \$5.00 minimum per course Material Fee
- \$13.76 per-credit Supplemental Fee for Undergraduate courses
- \$4.50 per term mandatory Student Accident Insurance Fee

Please refer to Tuition & Fee Information (<https://catalog.morainepark.edu/admissions-registration/tuition-fee-information/>) for additional enrollment fee information.

Financial Aid

Financial Aid is available for associate degree and technical diploma programs (those that are 2 semesters in length and typically with 28 credits or more). Processing can take 4-5 weeks after a student's completed Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA (<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa/>)) is received.

Several factors influence the total cost of your degree, including enrollment fees, the number of credits required, textbooks and equipment. [Financial aid \(<https://www.morainepark.edu/pay-for-college/financial-aid/>\)](https://www.morainepark.edu/pay-for-college/financial-aid/) can assist with those costs.

Course Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
Semester 1		
307-110	ECE: Social Studies, Art, Music and Movement	3
307-151	ECE: Infant and Toddler Development	3
307-160	ECE: Field Experience 1	3
307-167	ECE: Health, Safety and Nutrition	3
801-136	English Composition 1	3
890-101	College 101	2
Credits		17
Semester 2		
103-159	Computer Literacy - Microsoft Office	1
307-108	ECE: Early Language and Literacy	3
307-148	ECE: Foundations of Early Childhood Education	3
307-170	ECE: Field Experience 2	3
307-179	ECE: Child Development	3
307-188	ECE: Guiding Children's Behavior	3
Credits		16
Semester 3		
307-112	ECE: Science, Technology, Engineering and Math	3
307-187	ECE: Children With Differing Abilities	3
307-190	ECE: Field Experience 3	3
Mathematics Course (https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/general-education/mathematics/) or Natural Science Course (https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/general-education/natural-science/)		3
Social Science Course (https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/general-education/behavioral-social-science/)		3
Credits		15
Semester 4		
307-195	ECE: Family and Community Relationships	3
307-210	ECE: Field Experience 4	3
Communication Course (https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/general-education/communications/)		3

Social Science Course (https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/general-education/behavioral-social-science/)	3
Behavioral Science Course (https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/general-education/behavioral-social-science/)	3
Credits	15
Total Credits	63

Program Outcomes

- Apply child development theory to practice.
- Cultivate relationships with children, family and the community.
- Assess child growth and development.
- Use best practices in teaching and learning.
- Demonstrate professionalism.
- Integrate health, safety and nutrition practices.

Pathways

- Early Childhood Education Associate Degree (p. 1)
 - Child Care Services Technical Diploma (<https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/programs/child-care-services/>)
 - Early Childhood Administrative Credential Certificate (<https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/programs/early-childhood-administrative-credential-certificate/>)
 - Early Childhood Preschool Credential Certificate (<https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/programs/early-childhood-preschool-credential-certificate/>)
 - Infant/Toddler Credential Certificate (<https://catalog.morainepark.edu/program-information/programs/infant-toddler-credential-certificate/>)

Earn certificates, a technical diploma and associate degree along this pathway. Start with some courses for entry-level employment, and continue with additional courses for higher wages and job advancement.

Career Opportunities

- Child Care Teacher
- Child Care Assistant Teacher
- Family Child Care Provider
- Infant or Toddler Caregiver
- In-Home Nanny
- Instructional Assistant
- Head Start Teacher Assistant
- 4K Teacher Assistant
- School District Instructional Assistant

Statewide Median Salary for Recent Graduates

\$34,577