

**EDUCATION – EARLY CHILDHOOD**

Business and Social Sciences Division  
Room T302, (847) 543-2047  
[www.clcillinois.edu/programs/ece](http://www.clcillinois.edu/programs/ece)

**Degree: Associate in Arts  
Plan 13AB**

The following courses are **recommended** for students who have not decided upon a specific four-year college or university. Once a transfer school is selected, students are **strongly encouraged** to meet with a Student Development Counselor or advisor to determine courses at CLC which will also meet the transfer requirements. To complete any transfer degree, students should select from the general education requirements outlined on page 28.

All course prerequisites must be met. Additionally, students are required to select one course from the International/Multicultural list on page 28 to meet graduation requirements. A grade of C or better is required for all English course requirements.

<b>FIRST SEMESTER</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>ENG 121</b> English Composition I	3
<b>MTH 121</b> Math for Elementary Teaching I (elective)	3
<b>PSY 121</b> Introduction to Psychology	3
<b>ART 121</b> Introduction to Art <i>or</i>	
<b>ART 240+</b> History of Art I <i>or</i>	
<b>ART 241+</b> History of Art II <i>or</i>	
<b>ART 260</b> History of Photography	3
<b>ECE 121</b> Introduction to Early Childhood Ed* (elective)	3
<b>SECOND SEMESTER</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>ENG 122</b> English Composition II	3
<b>MTH 221</b> Math for Elementary Teaching II	3
<b>BIO 120</b> Environmental Biology <i>or</i>	
<b>BIO 141</b> Concepts in Biology	4
<b>PHI 125+</b> Introduction to Ethics <i>or</i>	
<b>HUM 221+</b> American Decades	3
<b>ECE 124</b> Child Development for Educators (elective)	3

<b>THIRD SEMESTER</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>CMM 121</b> Fundamentals of Speech	3
<b>CHM 142</b> Chemistry for a Changing World <i>or</i>	
<b>PHY 120</b> Practical Aspects of Physics	4
<b>PSC 121++</b> American National Politics	3
<b>MUS 124</b> Music Appreciation	3
Concentration/Elective	3

<b>FOURTH SEMESTER</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>HST 221</b> United States History to 1876 <i>or</i>	
<b>HST 222</b> United States History 1876 to present	3
Concentration/Elective	3
Concentration/Elective	3
Concentration/Elective	3
Concentration/Elective	3

<b>CONCENTRATION/ELECTIVES</b>	
<b>ECE 121*</b> Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3
<b>ECE 124</b> Child Development for Educators	3
<b>ECE 141</b> Health, Safety and Nutrition	3
<b>ECE 220***</b> Observation and Assessment	3
<b>ECE 223</b> Child, Family and Community	3
<b>ECE 229</b> Language Development and Early Literacy	3
<b>ECE 233</b> Young Children with Special Needs	3
<b>ECE 241</b> Guidance and Social Development	3
<b>ECE 242</b> Math Activities for Young Children	3
<b>EDU 121</b> Introduction to Teaching	3
<b>EDU 222</b> The Exceptional Child	3
<b>EDU 223</b> Technology in the Classroom	3
<b>EDU 224+</b> Diversity in Schools and Society	3
<b>EDU 242**</b> Observation/Clinical Experience in Education	1

Math requirements vary at four-year institutions.

+ Choose from these courses to fulfill the I/M requirement. EDU 224 is strongly recommended for this program of study.

++ PSC 121 is required by most 4-year institutions

\* Requires 10 hours of observation and fieldwork

\*\* Requires 30 hours of observation and field experience in a school setting

\*\*\* Requires 15 hours of observation and field experience in a school setting

Continued on next page.



# EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SCIENCES PROGRAMS

This plan benefits students interested in transferring to a four-year college or university to obtain an Illinois State Board of Education teaching license.

For students wishing to obtain a teaching license in the State of Illinois, a grade of C or above is compulsory for all coursework required for the teaching license. This includes courses in the major, all education courses, and required general electives. This is effective for those applying for teacher licensure as of 2012, Illinois State Board of Education.

**Note:** This plan includes **recommendations** for students who plan to major in this subject at a four year school. Students who follow this plan will meet the requirements of a general transfer degree (A.A. or A.S). The CLC degree earned will be a general transfer degree, not a degree in this specific area of study.

DEGREES/CERTIFICATES

## EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

### **Degree: Associate in Applied Science, Early Childhood Education Plan 25EA**

The Associate of Applied Science Degree program in Early Childhood Education prepares students for careers working with young children. Graduates of the program are DCFS-qualified to be lead teachers and directors in early childhood centers and school-age programs. Public school Pre-K programs may employ A.A.S. degree graduates as assistant teachers. Many of the required courses may transfer to four-year institutions with related programs. ECE 121, ECE 124, ECE 214, ECE 220, ECE 248, ECE 250, ECE 252 and EDU 242 require daytime field observation or classroom experience hours may require a current Illinois State Police criminal background check and/or current medical documentation. Check individual catalog course descriptions and catalog information or contact the Early Childhood Education Department Chair for further guidance. After completion of this A.A.S. degree program, interested students will need to complete applications for the Illinois Gateways to Opportunity to qualify and receive the Level 4 Infant/Toddler Credential and the Level 4 ECE Credential. See Department Chair for more information.

To complete an A.A.S., students are **strongly encouraged** to meet with the Early Childhood Education department chair to identify coursework that will meet degree requirements.

<b>FIRST SEMESTER</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>ENG 120</b> Technical Composition I <i>or</i>	
<b>ENG 121</b> English Composition I	3
<b>PSY 121</b> Introduction to Psychology	3
<b>ECE 117</b> Creative Activities for Infants and Toddlers	3
<b>ECE 121+</b> Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3
<b>ECE 124+</b> Child Development for Educators	3
<b>SECOND SEMESTER</b>	<b>15-16</b>
<b>CMM 121</b> Fundamentals of Speech Humanities or Fine Arts Elective	3
Physical or Life Science Elective: Any BIO, CHM, ESC, PHY, GEG 120 or GEG 121. Refer to course descriptions for prerequisites	3-4
<b>ECE 116</b> Creative Activities	3
<b>ECE 141</b> Health, Safety, and Nutrition	3

## THIRD SEMESTER **15**

<b>ECE 214+</b> Group Care of Infants and Toddlers	3
<b>ECE 223</b> Child, Family, and Community	3
<b>ECE 229</b> Language Development and Early Literacy	3
<b>ECE 241</b> Guidance and Social Development	3
ECE Elective	3

## FOURTH SEMESTER **15**

<b>ECE 220+</b> Observation and Assessment	3
<b>ECE 233</b> Young Children with Special Needs	3
<b>ECE 242</b> Math Activities for Young Children <i>or</i>	
<b>MTH 140</b> Contemporary Mathematics <i>or</i>	
<b>MTH 141</b> Quantitative Literacy <i>or</i>	
<b>MTH 142</b> General Education Statistics	3
<b>ECE 248</b> Assessment Seminar	3
ECE Elective	3

## EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION ELECTIVES **6-8**

Select 6-8 hours from the following. Students wishing to apply for the Illinois Gateways to Opportunity Level 4 Infant-Toddler and ECE entitled credentials must choose ECE 250, ECE 251, ECE 252, and ECE 253 as electives. In this situation, the student will complete this degree with 62 credit hours.

<b>ECE 250*</b> ECE Practicum I- Infants and Toddlers and	
<b>ECE 251*</b> Curriculum Development I	4
<b>ECE 252*</b> ECE Practicum II- Preschool and	
<b>ECE 253*</b> Curriculum Development II	4
<b>ECE 270</b> Administration of ECE Programs	3
<b>ECE 299</b> Special Topics in Early Childhood Education	1-3
<b>EDU 121</b> Introduction to Teaching	3
<b>EDU 222</b> The Exceptional Child	3
<b>EDU 223</b> Technology in the Classroom	3
<b>EDU 224</b> Diversity in Schools and Society	3
<b>EDU 225</b> Educational Psychology	3
<b>EDU 242</b> Observation/Clinical Experience	1
<b>EDU 299</b> Special Topics in Education	1-3
<b>ENG 128</b> Linguistics and Society	3
<b>ENG 262</b> Theories of teaching ESL and Bilingual Education	3

## **Total A.A.S. Degree 60-62**

For students wishing to obtain a teaching credential in the State of Illinois, a grade of C or above is compulsory for all coursework required for the teaching credential. This includes courses in the major, all education courses, and required general electives. This is effective for those applying for teacher certification as of 2012 (Illinois State Board of Education).

\*A.A.S. in ECE students who desire to earn the Illinois Gateways to Opportunity ECE Credential—Level 4 and the Illinois Gateways to Opportunity Infant/Toddler Credential—Level 4 must complete these four courses as electives or be able to document relevant work experience. Upon successful completion of this program, students may complete an application with INCCRRA/Gateways to Opportunity to receive these credentials. All courses required for a Gateways Credential must be earned with a grade of C or Better. See Department Chair for more details.

ECE 250 and ECE 252 each require 150 hours of classroom work in a NAEYC accredited early childhood center. These courses also require all course prerequisites (see course descriptions in catalog), as well as a current criminal clearance and DCFS mandated medical requirements. Completion of two practicums and relevant curriculum courses will require an additional semester to complete.

ECE 251 and ECE 253 must be taken concurrently (in an online format) with the coordinating practicum course.

Illinois Gateways to Opportunity awards entitlement status to higher education institutions that align their coursework with credential requirements. Students who complete the required courses may meet Gateways credential component requirements, and have up to two years to apply to receive their credential(s). Visit [www.ilgateways.com/en/gateways-to-opportunity-credentials](http://www.ilgateways.com/en/gateways-to-opportunity-credentials).

+ ECE 121, ECE 124, ECE 214, ECE 220, ECE 248, ECE 250, ECE 252, EDU 124 and EDU 242 require daytime field observation and/or experience hours may require current Illinois State Police criminal background check, and/or current medical documentation. Check individual catalog descriptions for more information or contact the ECE Department Chair.

**ADMINISTRATION AND LEADERSHIP IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (Certificate) Plan 25EF**

This certificate is intended for students who already hold degrees or who have taken extensive coursework in other academic fields and have several years experience in early childhood classroom teaching. The program provides the additional study that is often required for a career change, to meet requirements for Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (IDCFS) Director Qualifications, National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) program accreditation criteria, and/or to build skills in early childhood program administration and leadership.

<b>FIRST SEMESTER</b>		<b>13</b>
<b>ECE 121</b>	Intro to Early Childhood Education	3
<b>ECE 124</b>	Child Development for Educators	3
<b>ECE 141</b>	Health, Safety and Nutrition	3
<b>HCM 113</b>	ServSafe Food Service Sanitation	1
<b>BUS 121</b>	Introduction to Business	3
<b>SECOND SEMESTER</b>		<b>12</b>
<b>ECE 223</b>	Child, Family, and Community	3
<b>EDU 223</b>	Technology in the Classroom	3
<b>CMM 127</b>	Intercultural Communication	3
<b>BUS 115</b>	Elements of Supervision	3
<b>THIRD SEMESTER</b>		<b>11</b>
<b>ECE 254*</b>	ECE Administrative Practicum <i>or</i> Four credits of approved elective coursework	4
<b>ECE 270</b>	Administration of ECE Programs	3
<b>CMM 128</b>	Interviewing Practices	3
<b>ECE 299</b>	Special Topics in Early Childhood Education	1
<b>Total Hours for Certificate</b>		<b>36</b>

\* See Department Chair for details and application for Illinois Gateways Level 1 Director Credential.

**INFANT/TODDLER LEVEL II - ILLINOIS GATEWAYS TO OPPORTUNITY CREDENTIAL (Certificate) Plan 25EG**

Illinois Gateways to Opportunity Infant/Toddler Credentials Levels 2–4 are for child care professionals working with children birth to age 8 who have specific levels of training, education and experience. An Entitled Institution is a college or university who has aligned their coursework with credential requirements. The College of Lake County’s Early Childhood Education Department has Entitled Institution status to award Levels II through IV credentials to students who have completed the required courses for each type and level of credential. The following courses are required to obtain and be awarded the Level II Infant/Toddler Illinois Gateways to Opportunity Credential. All courses required for a Gateways Credential must be earned with a grade of C or Better.

**NOTE:** It is not necessary to earn the Level I Gateways Credential before pursuing the Levels II and III Credentials and Certificates, BUT YOU MUST EARN THE LEVEL II ECE CERTIFICATE/ CREDENTIAL (PLAN 25EI) BEFORE YOU EARN THE LEVEL II INFANT/TODDLER CERTIFICATE (PLAN 25EG). (There is a two-course difference.)

<b>FIRST SEMESTER</b>		<b>9</b>
<b>ECE 117</b>	Creative Activities for Infants and Toddlers	3
<b>ECE 121</b>	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3
<b>ECE 124</b>	Child Development for Educators	3
<b>SECOND SEMESTER</b>		<b>9</b>
<b>ECE 141</b>	Health, Safety and Nutrition	3
<b>ECE 214</b>	Group Care of Infants and Toddlers	3
<b>ECE 223</b>	Child, Family, and Community	3
<b>Total Hours for Certificate</b>		<b>18</b>

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**INFANT/TODDLER LEVEL III - ILLINOIS  
GATEWAYS TO OPPORTUNITY CREDENTIAL  
(Certificate) Plan 25EH**

Illinois Gateways to Opportunity Infant/Toddler Credentials Levels 2–4 are for child care professionals working with children birth to age 8 who have specific levels of training, education and experience. An Entitled Institution is a college or university who has aligned their coursework with credential requirements. The College of Lake County's Early Childhood Education Department has Entitled Institution status to award Levels II through IV credentials to students who have completed the required courses for each type and level of credential. The following courses are required to obtain and be awarded the Level III Infant/Toddler Illinois Gateways to Opportunity Credential. All courses required for a Gateways Credential must be earned with a grade of C or Better.

<b>FIRST SEMESTER</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>ECE 117</b> Creative Activities for Infants and Toddlers	3
<b>ECE 121</b> Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3
<b>ECE 124</b> Child Development for Educators	3
<b>ENG 120</b> Technical Composition I <i>or</i>	
<b>ENG 121</b> English Composition I	3
<b>ECE 141</b> Health, Safety and Nutrition	3
<b>SECOND SEMESTER</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>ECE 214</b> Group Care of Infants and Toddlers	3
<b>ECE 220</b> Observation and Assessment	3
<b>ECE 223</b> Child, Family, and Community	3
<b>ECE 242</b> Math Activities for Young Children <i>or</i>	
<b>MTH 140</b> Contemporary Mathematics <i>or</i>	
<b>MTH 141</b> Quantitative Literacy <i>or</i>	
<b>MTH 142</b> General Education Statistics	3
<b>CMM 121</b> Fundamentals of Speech <i>or</i>	
<b>PSY 121</b> Introduction to Psychology	3
<b>Total Hours for Certificate</b>	<b>30</b>

**EARLY CHILDHOOD - LEVEL II - GATEWAYS  
TO OPPORTUNITY CREDENTIAL  
(Certificate) Plan 25EI**

Illinois Gateways to Opportunity Early Childhood Credentials Levels 2–4 are for child care professionals working with children birth to age 8 who have specific levels of training, education and experience. An Entitled Institution is a college or university who has aligned their coursework with credential requirements. The College of Lake County's Early Childhood Education Department has Entitled Institution status to award Levels II through IV credentials to students who have completed the required courses for each type and level of credential. The following courses are required to obtain and be awarded the Level II Early Childhood Illinois Gateways to Opportunity Credential. All courses required for a Gateways Credential must be earned with a grade of C or Better.

<b>NOTE:</b> It is not necessary to earn the Level I Gateways Credential before pursuing the Levels II and III Credentials and Certificates, BUT YOU MUST EARN THE LEVEL II ECE CERTIFICATE/CREDENTIAL (PLAN 25EI) BEFORE YOU EARN THE LEVEL II INFANT/TODDLER CERTIFICATE (PLAN 25EG). (There is a two-course difference.)	
<b>FIRST SEMESTER</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>ECE 121</b> Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3
<b>ECE 124</b> Child Development for Educators	3
<b>ECE 141</b> Health, Safety and Nutrition	3
<b>SECOND SEMESTER</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>ECE 220</b> Observation and Assessment	3
<b>ECE 223</b> Child, Family, and Community	3
<b>ECE 229</b> Language and Development and Early Literacy	3
<b>Total Hours for Certificate</b>	<b>18</b>

**EARLY CHILDHOOD - LEVEL III - GATEWAYS  
TO OPPORTUNITY CREDENTIAL  
(Certificate) Plan 25EJ**

Illinois Gateways to Opportunity Early Childhood Credentials Levels 2–4 are for child care professionals working with children birth to age 8 who have specific levels of training, education and experience. An Entitled Institution is a college or university who has aligned their coursework with credential requirements. The College of Lake County's Early Childhood Education Department has Entitled Institution status to award Levels II through IV credentials to students who have completed the required courses for each type and level of credential. The following courses are required to obtain and be awarded the Level III Early Childhood Illinois Gateways to Opportunity Credential. All courses required for a Gateways Credential must be earned with a grade of C or Better.

<b>FIRST SEMESTER</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>ECE 121</b> Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3
<b>ECE 124</b> Child Development for Educators	3
<b>ECE 141</b> Health, Safety and Nutrition	3
<b>ENG 120</b> Technical Composition I <i>or</i>	
<b>ENG 121</b> English Composition I	3
<b>CMM 121</b> Fundamentals of Speech <i>or</i>	
<b>PSY 121</b> Introduction to Psychology	3
<b>SECOND SEMESTER</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>ECE 220</b> Observation and Assessment	3
<b>ECE 223</b> Child, Family, and Community	3
<b>ECE 229</b> Language and Development and Early Literacy	3
<b>ECE 241</b> Guidance and Social Development	3
<b>ECE 242</b> Math Activities for Young Children <i>or</i>	
<b>MTH 140</b> Contemporary Mathematics <i>or</i>	
<b>MTH 141</b> Quantitative Literacy <i>or</i>	
<b>MTH 142</b> General Education Statistics	3
<b>Total Hours for Certificate</b>	<b>30</b>

For more information on recommended courses or program specific advising, contact the Business and Social Sciences Division at (847) 543-2047.