



**EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (ECE)**

[Program Details](#) [Program Outcomes](#) [Program Video](#)

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[Go to Pierce Career Roadmaps Home](#)

**START HERE:**

- [Enrollment prep](#)
- [Admissions](#)
- [High school options](#)
- [Tuition & fees](#)
- [Active duty military](#)
- [Veterans](#)
- [Workforce retraining](#)
- [IBEST](#)

**Not sure where to start?**



**SPECIAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

- [Cleared Portable Background Check](#)
- [TB Test](#)
- [First Aid Card](#)
- [CPR Card](#)
- [Food Handler's Card](#)

**CAREER EXPLORATION & EMPLOYMENT**

What can I do in this career field?



Is this a growing career field in WA?



Is this career field right for me?



Will this career field meet the needs of my family?



Receive support from:

[Job and Career Connections Office](#)

to access and use:

**BEGINNING STATE CERTIFICATES**

**State Initial ECE Certificate**  
Course Worksheet: **12 Credits**

**State Short ECE Certificate of Specialization**

Initial Certificate PLUS one of the following:

- ECE - General: **20 Credits**
- Infant - Toddler Care: **20 Credits**
- School-Age Care: **20 Credits**
- Family Child Care: **20 Credits**
- Administration: **20 Credits**

**JOB OUTLOOK AND WAGES**

[Head Start/ECEAP Assistant Teacher](#)  
[Family Child Care Provider](#)  
[Child Care Aide](#)

**ADVANCED STATE CERTIFICATE**

**State ECE Certificate**  
Course Worksheet: **47 Credits**

**JOB OUTLOOK AND WAGES**

[Child Care Program Director/Supervisor](#)  
[Child Care Provider](#)  
[Private Preschool Teacher](#)

**2 YR DEGREE**

**Associate in Early Childhood Education**

Course Worksheet: **96 credits**

Sample Two Year Degree Plans:

**Days** **Nights/Weekends**

**JOB OUTLOOK AND WAGES**

[Head Start/ECEAP Assistant or Lead Teacher](#)  
[Special Ed.](#)  
[Assistant/Paraeducator](#)  
[Child Care Teacher](#)  
[Director/Owner Child Care](#)

**2 YR TRANSFER DEGREE**

**Associate of Applied Science-Transfer Early Childhood Education (AAS-T)**

Course Worksheet: **96 credits**

Sample Two Year Degree Plans:

**Days** **Nights/Weekends**

**PATHWAYS TO 4 YR DEGREES**

[Pierce College Bachelor of Applied Science in Teaching](#)

**JOB OUTLOOK AND WAGES**

[Elementary School Teacher, Gr. 1-3](#)  
[Kindergarten Teacher](#)



**(BAS-T)**  
90 Credits  
Teacher Certification

Special Education Teacher, Pre-K  
Special Education  
Teacher, Kindergarten/Elementary

**PATHWAYS TO 4 YR DEGREES** *Included*

**Articulated**

Washington State University  
The Evergreen State College\*

Brandman University  
City University of Seattle  
North Seattle College

**Related**

St. Martin's University  
Pacific Oaks College  
Heritage University: Non Certified  
ECE

*\*also available with Associate in ECE*

**JOB OUTLOOK AND WAGES**

Gov't Funded Pre-school Teacher  
Pre-School/Child Care  
Administrator  
Head Start Lead Teacher  
Head Start/ECEAP Program  
Coordinator  
Home Visitor

**PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:**

Free resources  
and membership available



**Hint:**

Professional Membership  
looks good on a resume!

**RELATED PROGRAMS**    Math Education (DTA) Transfer

PLEASE SEND COMMENTS OR CORRECTIONS TO:

**Roadmap Helpdesk**

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