

Early Childhood Education

<https://cwi.edu/program/early-childhood-education>



Becoming an early childhood educator takes an equal amount of heart, knowledge, and skill. As a child care provider or preschool teacher, you have the responsibility for educating and nurturing young children from birth to age eight in a variety of early childhood settings. At the College of Western Idaho you will have the opportunity to develop your teaching skills right on campus in our own college Preschool Laboratory. Additional practical experience in community early childhood facilities expands career opportunities during college and after graduation.

MISSION

The program curriculum covers a range of topics related to child development and teaching practice. Not only will you learn how to teach young children but you will also learn to how to create safe and healthy learning environments, effectively partner with parents in their child's care, and develop professional policies to guide center and classroom procedures.

WHY THIS PROGRAM

Students can start the program fall, spring or summer semester. Classes are offered during the day and evening as well as online. Students can take classes on a part-time or full-time schedule. This program involves classroom instruction as well as practical experience in our Preschool Laboratory or in early childhood facilities throughout the Treasure Valley. Students may use their own early childhood classroom to complete some practicums with children if the program meets certain requirements.

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN TO DO

- Understand the growth and developmental stages of young children
- Develop and deliver age appropriate curriculum in literacy, math, science, social studies, art and music
- Provide quality care and education for young children from birth to age eight
- Set up and maintain a healthy, safe learning environment
- Incorporate good nutrition into meals, snacks and food experiences
- Guide and foster positive social and emotional development of children in groups
- Partner with parents in their child's education
- Learn to include children with diverse backgrounds as well as special needs into classrooms
- Supervise and administer all aspects of an early childhood program
- Become a professional and advocate for young children and their families

APPLY NOW! VISIT [CWI.EDU/GO](https://cwi.edu/go)

One Stop Student Services | 208.562.3000 | onestop@cwi.edu

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

CHILD DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE (CDA) CREDENTIAL

These Courses are now available online for students working in an early childhood education program!

The Early Childhood Education program provides the courses to meet the educational component of the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential of the Council for Professional Recognition. The program provides courses on a regular basis to meet the requirements for the Preschool, Infant/Toddler, and Family Child Care CDA. The program will upon special request provide the coursework for the Home Visitor CDA.



These courses meet the CDA 120 hours of the education:

- ECED 100 Foundations of Early Childhood Education, 3 credits
- ECED 101 Child Development and Guidance, 3 credits
- ECED 105 Teaching Young Children I, 4 credits

Supervision and support to complete the Professional Portfolio and Family Questionnaires is provided by a faculty advisor. Students who are awarded a CDA with college coursework for the educational component and decide to continue in the Early Childhood Education program may be eligible to challenge ECED 106 Teaching Young Children II.

If you are interested in learning more about the CDA coursework at CWI, contact Sherri Lauer, sherrilauer@cw.edu or 208.562.3483. Please do not contact the One Stop about the CDA because it is not a CWI degree but a national credential from the Council for Professional Recognition.

To learn more about the types of CDA credentials and steps to achieving the credential, visit www.cdacouncil.org.

DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES

Early Childhood Education - Associates of Applied
Science Degree, 24 Months
Delivery Formats: In-Person

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CAREER INFORMATION

Graduates work in child care centers, preschools, and Head Start programs as both assistant and lead teachers. Additionally, graduates begin their own business by starting family child care homes or child care centers and preschools. Career opportunities outside of teaching include becoming family educators and advocates, child life assistants, public school assistant teachers, and developmental techs in developmental disabilities agencies.

Work environments are busy and high energy with an emphasis on interaction between children and adults. The personal fulfillment of helping young children and their families is a tremendous benefit to professionals in this field.

PROFESSIONS

- Child Care Center Teacher or Director
- Preschool Teacher
- Head Start Program Assistant or Lead Teacher
- Family Child Care Owner

LOCATIONS

Nampa Campus Multipurpose Building

6042 Birch Lane, Nampa, ID 83687

PROGRAM CONTACT



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