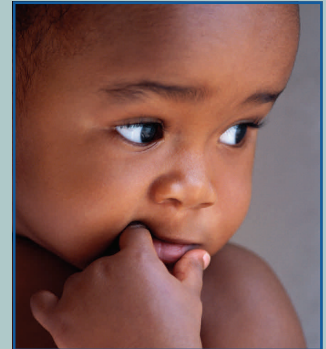


SONOMA COUNTY CAREERS IN EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION



CONSIDERING A CAREER PATH IN EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION?

A career in early care and education gives you the opportunity to make a real difference in people's lives. You help children grow and develop and their parents enter or remain in the workforce. In doing so, you make a positive contribution to our community, our economy, and families of Sonoma County.

Today is an especially good time to enter the field of early care and education. As Sonoma County grows, the need for early care and education programs increases.

Early care and education positions are available on all levels – from Center Director to Site Supervisor to Teacher to Teacher's Aide to family child care entrepreneur. Early care and education graduates work in school districts, Head Start programs, private and state-funded child development centers, community-based organizations, early intervention programs and special education preschools.

Sorting through the education and certification requirements for these early care and education career options can be confusing. This document aims to explain the requirements for each position and where you can find the courses needed to fulfill those requirements.

This document was created through a collaborative effort between Sonoma State University, Santa Rosa Junior College and the Child Care Planning Council of Sonoma County. We would like to also thank the Early Childhood Council of Kern County for some of the content found in this document.



INTERESTS AND SKILLS THAT WILL HELP YOU BECOME AN EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONAL



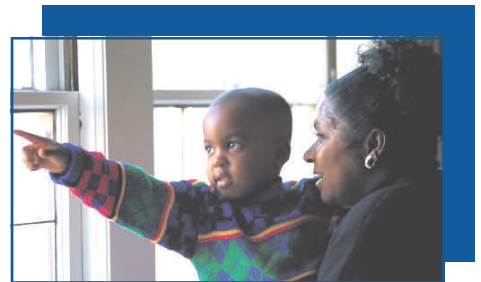
Working with young children can be extremely rewarding and satisfying work; it can be the most valuable and important job that a person can do. Caring for children can also be very challenging. It is important to have some knowledge about working with young children before you invest time and money into becoming an early childhood educator. It is also important to consider why you want to teach and if you have the qualities and skills you will need in order to provide high quality care for children.

Before you embark on a journey into early childhood education, ask yourself these questions:

- Do I like to be around groups of young children?
- Am I a patient and tolerant person?
- Am I creative?
- Am I able to set limits for children?
- Am I interested in and willing to learn about cultural and linguistic difference?
- Am I willing and able to be open to people's beliefs and customs even when they are different from my own?
- Do I have good communication skills with adults and with children?
- Am I a good decision maker and can I make a decision quickly if necessary?
- Am I a good team player?
- Am I willing to invest time to take classes, participate in professional groups, and continue throughout my career to learn about children's needs and development?
- Do I have the support system to assist me if I accept a lower paying job as I begin on this career ladder?
- Am I willing to be a spokesperson for children, their families, myself and my profession?
- Do I have the physical stamina and health to care for young children?

Successful Teachers and Providers:

- ✓ Delight in and are curious about children's development
- ✓ Value children's play
- ✓ Expect continuous change and challenge
- ✓ Are willing to take risks and make mistakes
- ✓ Provide time for regular reflection and self-examination
- ✓ Seek collaboration and peer support



Do you feel you have, or will be able to develop, these dispositions over time?

Child care providers who enter the field because of a professional interest in the field and who are committed to caring for children seek out opportunities to learn more about child care and education, and seek out the company of other providers to learn from. These learning strategies support them to provide higher quality, warmer, more attentive care, which is associated with better growth and development in children.

SONOMA COUNTY

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATOR CAREER PATHWAYS

JOB CATEGORIES & TITLES	EDUCATION REQUIRED	CERTIFICATION REQUIRED
SUPPORTING EARLY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT		
Family Child Care Assistant	CPR/First Aid	None
Family Child Care Substitute	CPR/First Aid	None
Teacher's Aid or Assistant Teacher in non-subsidized centers	0-6 units of ECE	None
Assistant in subsidized centers	6 units of ECE	Child Development Assistant Permit (optional)
Associate Teacher in subsidized centers	12 units of ECE	Child Development Associate Teacher Permit
Child Development Agency Case Manager	Varies – from High School diploma, to 24 college units, to BA/MA, and/or prior case management or social service agency experience	None
Child Development Agency Resource Specialist	Varies – from HS diploma or higher, to 12 units in ECE with 2 years ECE teaching experience, to 24 units of ECE	None
PLANNING AND GUIDING EARLY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT		
Teacher in non-subsidized centers	12 units of ECE	None
Teacher in subsidized centers	12 units of ECE	Child Development Teacher Permit
Teacher in an Infant Care Program	12 units of ECE plus 3 units in infant care	None
Teacher in a School-Age Program	12 units of ECE, or recreation, physical education or toward an elementary credential	None
Teacher in a Head Start Program	AA plus 3 units administration/supervision; 50% must have BA	None
Teacher in Early Head Start	12 units of ECE, plus 6 units of Infant/Toddler and 3 units of administration/supervision	Child Development Associate Teacher Permit or CDA*
Head Teacher in Early Head Start	AA plus 3 units administration/supervision; 50% must have BA	None
Master Teacher in subsidized centers	24 units of ECE, 16 GE units, 6 specialization units and 2 adult supervision units	Child Development Master Teacher Permit
Family Child Care Provider	15 hours of health training	None
Transitional Kindergarten Teacher	BA	Multiple Subject Credential
Elementary Teacher	BA	Multiple Subject Credential
Special Education Teacher	BA	Special Education Credential
CREATING AND MAINTAINING PROGRAM POLICIES AND PRACTICES		
Site Supervisor in subsidized centers	AA or 60 units, including 24 units of ECE, 6 administration units and 2 adult supervision units	Child Development Site Supervisor Permit
Program Director in non-subsidized centers	12 units of ECE and 3 administration units	None
Program Director in subsidized centers	BA or higher, including 24 units of ECE, 6 administration units and 2 adult supervision units	Child Development Program Director Permit
Area/Site Supervisor in Head Start	BA or higher in ECE or related field	None
Agency Program Manager/Director	BA or higher with previous relevant experience	None
ADVANCING THE EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSION		
Community College ECE Faculty	MA** or equivalent	None
University ECE Faculty	MA or higher	None
Child Development Agency Director	BA or higher	None

* The Child Development Associate (CDA) credential is a nationally recognized certificate issued by the CDA Credentialing Commission in Washington DC. For information on obtaining the CDA credential, contact the Council for Early Childhood Professional Recognition at 1-800-424-4310 or visit their website at <http://www.cdacouncil.org/>.

** Master's Degree in Child Development, Early Childhood Education, Human Development, Home Economics/Family and Consumer Studies with a specialization in Child Development/Early Childhood Education, Educational Psychology with a specialization in Child Development/Early Childhood Education; or equivalent.

**SONOMA COUNTY COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
OFFERING EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION DEGREES**

Type	College/University	Degrees/Certificates
COMMUNITY COLLEGE	<p align="center">SANTA ROSA JUNIOR COLLEGE 1501 Mendocino Ave Santa Rosa, CA 95401-4395 (707) 527-4315 or (707) 527-4011 www/santarosa.edu/childdev</p>	<p>CHILD DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Associate Teacher Child Development Certificate – 12 units ◆ Children in the Justice System Certificate – 18 units ◆ Teacher Child Development Certificate – 30 units ◆ Associate of Arts Degree (AA) in Child Development – 60 units ◆ Associate of Science for Transfer Degree (AST) in Early Childhood Education – 60 units
STATE UNIVERSITY	<p align="center">CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SONOMA 1801 East Cotati Ave Rohnert Park, CA 94928-3609 (707) 664-3115 http://www.sonoma.edu/education</p>	<p>SCHOOL OF EDUCATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Bachelor’s Degree (BA) with a major or minor in Early Childhood Studies ◆ Master of Arts Degree (MA) in Education with a concentration in Early Childhood Education ◆ Multiple Subject Credential Program (for teaching in public elementary schools) ◆ Reading and Literacy Added Authorization (requires Multiple Subject Credential) ◆ Reading and Language Arts Leadership Specialist Credential (requires Multiple Subject Credential) ◆ Education Specialist Credential (for teaching special education in public schools) ◆ Autism Spectrum Disorder Added Authorization (requires Education Specialist Credential) ◆ Master of Arts Degree (MA) in Education with a concentration in Reading and Language ◆ Master’s of Arts Degree (MA) in Education with a concentration in Curriculum, Teaching and Learning and an emphasis in Early Childhood Education
PRIVATE COLLEGE/ UNIVERSITY	<p align="center">Pacific Union College One Angwin Avenue Angwin, CA 94508-9797 (707) 965-7265 http://www.puc.edu</p>	<p>EDUCATION DEPARTMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Major in Early Childhood Education, AS or BS ◆ Elementary Teaching Credential: Non-Degree Program ◆ Elementary Teaching Credential: Master of Arts in Teaching (MA) ◆ Master of Arts in Teaching (MA) ◆ Clear Credential Program ◆ Master of Education, M.Ed.

**INFORMATION ABOUT THE
NEW SRJC ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE FOR TRANSFER DEGREE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

If you hope to start at SRJC and ultimately earn a BA degree, the **Associate of Science for Transfer in Early Childhood Education (AS-T in ECE)** is the right path for you.

This new degree differs from the Associate of Arts in Child Development degree in that it makes it possible for students to move directly into Sonoma State University’s new Early Childhood Studies Baccalaureate Degree program. The major classes you take at SRJC will all count towards this degree and you won’t need to repeat or retake classes at the upper division level. Additionally, because of the agreement, students with the AS-T degree get priority in being accepted into the baccalaureate program at SSU and many other CSUs. Students interested in pursuing the AS-T in ECE should see a counselor and get assessed for placement into appropriate classes from the beginning.

SRJC counselors can assist with the process of applying to transfer to Sonoma State University.