

Child Development Certificate

Why should I major in this program?

Iowa Western's Child Development certificate program prepares students for entry-level professional careers in early childhood. The program is designed to enhance the quality of child care by increasing and recognizing the competence of those who care for and educate young children. This program increases opportunities for career advancement in addition to degree advancement through the Early Childhood Diploma and the Early Childhood Studies programs.

What type of degree will I earn at Iowa Western if I enroll in this program?

Graduates of this one year program will earn a certificate in Child Development. Upon completion of the certificate, students are eligible for CDA certification from the Council for Professional Recognition.

The Child Development Associate (CDA) is a nationally recognized credential for those in the early care and education field. The program is designed to enhance the quality of child care by increasing and recognizing the competence of those who care for and educate young children. A CDA certificate may be earned for preschool, infant/toddler, and family child care professionals.

If I major in Child Development, can I transfer to a four-year college or university?

The intent of this certificate is to broaden the student's opportunities for promotion, career enhancement and personal achievement. While these credits may be recognized by four-year colleges, it is not the intent of Iowa Western to imply transferability. The certificate earned in this program may be used as a stepping stone to Iowa Western's Early Childhood Studies program, which would earn you a diploma or Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree.

What is the job outlook for Child Development graduates and what type of jobs will I be qualified for?

The purpose of this program is to enhance an early childhood career. With your certificate, you will be able to increase the opportunities available to you with your current employer and elsewhere. Every individual who enrolls in the program will have a different situation, so employment options and salaries will vary.

**For More Information,
contact the Admissions Office:
712.325.3277 or 800.432.5852, ext. 3277
or the Program Chair at 712.388.6811
www.iwcc.edu**

Program of Study

The Child Development Certificate program of study prepares students for careers in the early childhood profession. Students become knowledgeable in career development; guidance and discipline; health, safety and nutrition; and curriculum planning. Graduates of this program are awarded a certificate.

Upon completion of the certificate, students are eligible for CDA certification from the Council for Professional Recognition.

RECOMMENDED COURSE SEQUENCE

First Semester		Cr.
ECE 103	Introduction to Early Childhood	3
ECE 244	Early Childhood Guidance	4
		7
Second Semester		Cr.
ECE 133	Child Health, Safety and Nutrition	3
ECE 221	*Infant/Toddler Care and Education <u>OR</u>	3
ECE 153	*Early Childhood Curriculum I	4
		6-7

*Course selection depends on age group credential.

13-14 semester hours required

