Use your prior learning to earn college credit in Early Childhood Education at Honolulu Community College

The Honolulu Community College (HonCC) Early Childhood Education (ECE) Program recognizes that learning takes place in a variety of environments, not just in a college classroom. Work experience and professional development in the ECE field, for example, may be considered college-equivalent learning. The HonCC ECE program has created several options for Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) credits for students to demonstrate relevant knowledge and skills and request for college credit in lieu of completing coursework.

1). Do you have a current CDA?
HonCC students with a current Child Development Associate (CDA), awarded by the Council for Professional Recognition, may apply for up to 10 credits to be waived (ECED 105, ECED 110, ECED 151F and ECED 151S) when concurrently enrolled in another course at HonCC.

2). Credit by Examination
The Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) Credit by Examination is available for ECED 105, ECED 110, and ECED 131. Eligible HonCC students who learned course content through previous training or experience, but did not receive college credit for the course may be awarded course credit after receiving 70% or higher grade on a 100 question multiple choice exam and a written assignment. Students must be concurrently enrolled in another course at HonCC.

3). Portfolio-Based Assessment
A Portfolio-Based Assessment (PBA) is a type of PLA where students prepare a portfolio to provide evidence of learning aligned with course learning outcomes. Students will present their portfolio to a committee of ECE experts who then determine if the student’s documentation and evidence meets the course learning outcomes for the requested course. If the determination is positive, the student receives credits applicable to the requested course. PBA’s are available for the courses ECED 115 and ECED 245.

New PACE / PATCH Articulation & Infant-Toddler Caregiver Certificate
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PACE / PATCH Articulation

The HonCC Early Childhood Education program includes a noncredit program, PACE (Professional and Career Education for Early Childhood). PACE workshops are offered in a non-credit workshop format of sixteen 3-hour class sessions. Participants who complete all sixteen workshops in a course with a score of 70% or better are eligible for college credit. Participants who have completed the PATCH (People Attentive to Children) workshops below (and passed the assessment) may apply for a waiver of the equivalent PACE ECED 170 workshops.

PATCH Workshops That Articulate To PACE at Honcc

- West Ed Basic: Language Development
- West Ed Basic: It’s Not Just Routine
- West Ed Advanced: Space to Grow
- West Ed Advanced: Development and Learning in the Multicultural Setting
- West Ed Advanced: Protective Urges
- West Ed Advanced: Responding to the Family’s Needs
- West Ed Advanced: Respectfully Yours
- I/T Series 3: The Prepared Infant and Toddler Environment
- I/T Series 3: Building Partnerships with Families
- I/T Series 3: Understanding Infant/Toddler Curriculum
- I/T Series 3: Understanding Social and Emotional Development of Infants and Toddlers
- I/T Series 3: Cultural Sensitivity with Families

New - Infant and Toddler Caregiver Certificate

The Certificate of Competence for an Infant and Toddler Caregiver requires a 21-credit sequence designed to meet the Department of Human Services requirements for both coursework and work experience to become an Infant and Toddler Caregiver.

The course sequence:

First Semester
- ECED 110 Developmentally Appropriate Practices
- ECED 131 Early Childhood Development
- ECED 170 Introduction to Working with Infants and Toddlers

Second Semester
- ECED 140 Guiding Young Children in Group Settings
- ECED 151F Field-Based Practicum in Early Childhood
- ECED 151S Field-Based Practicum in Early Childhood Seminar

Third Semester
- ECED 296I Infant and Toddler Laboratory: Field Experience in Early Childhood Education II
- ECED 296A Infant and Toddler Seminar: Field Experience in Early Childhood Education II

For information on the Prior Learning Credit or the Certificate contact the HonCC ECE Program Coordinator, Caroline Soga: caroline.soga@hawaii.edu or 808-845-9289.