



Early Childhood Education, Associate of Applied Science

2026-2027 Catalog

Program Overview

The Associate of Applied Science in Early Childhood Education prepares students for careers in childcare centers, preschools, Head Start programs, and other early learning settings. Students learn to create developmentally appropriate learning environments, support children's growth and development, implement effective teaching strategies, and manage positive classroom environments. Designed for students entering the workforce after graduation, the program provides the knowledge and skills needed to support the learning and development of young children.

- Total Credit Hours Required: 60
- Program Length: 2 years
- Delivery Format: Face-to-Face, Online
- Credentials Awarded: Associate of Applied Science
- ADHE Degree Code: 0437

Summer Semester

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Notes
ECED 10061	Child Care Orientation Training	1	
ECED 10103	Foundations of Early Childhood Education	3	
ECED 11043	Child Growth & Development	3	
ECED 12043	Environments for Young Children	3	
ALHE 10131	Pediatric CPR & First Aid	1	
	Term Total	11	

Fall Term 1

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Notes
ENGL 10103	Composition I	3	
MATH 11103	Quantitative Literacy or	3	
MATH 11003	College Algebra		
ECED 14033	Child Development	3	
ECED 20163	Child Behavior & Guidance	3	
ECED 24063	Math & Science for Early Childhood	3	
	Term Total	15	

Spring Term 1

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Notes
ENGL 10203	Composition II	3	
BIOL 10043/10031 BIOL 10103, 12091/12193 PHSC 10004, 10031/10043 CHEM 10004 ASTR 12004	Biology for Non-Majors or Biology or Physical Science or Introduction to Chemistry or Introduction to Astronomy	4	
ECED 12203	Early Childhood Learning Environments	3	
ECED 23063	Literacy & Language Arts for Early Childhood	3	
CPSI 10003	Introduction to Computers	3	
	Term Total	16	

Summer Semester

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Notes
	Term Total		

Fall Term 2

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Notes
PSYC 11003	General Psychology	3	
SPCH 10003	Principles of Speech	3	
HEAL 10003	Personal and Community Health	3	
HIST 21103 HIST 21203	U.S. History I or U.S. History II	3	
	Term Total	12	

Spring Term 2

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Notes
EDHP 21063	K-12 Educational Technology	3	
PSYC 21003	Developmental Psychology	3	
SOCI 10103	Sociology	3	
PSCI 20003	American Government	3	
	Term Total	12	

Program Requirements

- Entrance requirements for CDA training are:
 - Age 18 years or older.
 - High school diploma or equivalent.

Curriculum Approved: 2020

Updated: 6/1/2026

- Successful completion of Child Care Orientation Training (CCOT ECED 10061) before or during the semester.
- Candidate should ideally be employed at an approved childcare facility while in CDA training. Students who are not employed in a childcare facility must complete 30 hours of observation in an approved childcare center.

Arkansas Course Transfer System (ACTS)

The Arkansas Course Transfer System (ACTS) contains information about the transferability of courses within Arkansas public colleges and universities. Courses not having an ACTS number may also transfer. Please consult the receiving institution for complete transfer information. To review the Arkansas Course Transfer System, visit <https://adhe.edu/students-parents/transfer-info-for-students>.

Stackable Credentials

Early Childhood Education, Certificate of Proficiency

ADHE Degree Code: 0018

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Notes
ECED 10061	Child Care Orientation Training	1	On Demand
ECED 10103	Foundations of Early Childhood Education	3	Summer
ECED 11043	Child Growth & Development	3	Summer
ECED 12043	Environments for Young Children	3	Summer
ALHE 10131	Pediatric CPR & First Aid	1	On Demand
	Total Credit Hours for Certificate of Proficiency	11	

Early Childhood Education, Technical Certificate

ADHE Degree Code: 4497

For Technical Certificate students will complete the above Certificate of Proficiency Early Childhood Education courses (11 credit hours) plus the following courses.

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Notes
ECED 14033	Child Development	3	Fall Only
ECED 20163	Child Behavior & Guidance	3	Fall Only
ECED 24063	Math & Science for Early Childhood	3	Fall Only
ECED 12203	Early Childhood Learning Environments	3	Spring Only
ECED 23063	Literacy & Language Arts for Early Childhood	3	Spring Only
	Total Credit Hours for Technical Certificate	26	

Early Childhood Education, Associate of Applied Science

ADHE Degree Code: 0437

AAS students will complete the above Certificate of Proficiency courses and Technical Certificate courses (26 credit hours) plus the following courses.

Course ID	Course Name	Credit Hours	Notes
CPSI 1000	Introduction to Computers	3	
ENGL 10103	Composition I	3	
ENGL 10203	Composition II	3	
MATH 11103 MATH 11003	Quantitative Literacy or College Algebra	3	
PSYC 11003	General Psychology	3	
PSYC 21003	Developmental Psychology	3	Spring Only
SOCI 10103	Sociology	3	
SPCH 10003	Principles of Speech	3	
HEAL 10003	Personal and Community Health	3	Fall Only
BIOL 10043/10031 BIOL 10103, 12091/12193 PHSC 10004, 10031/10043 CHEM 10004 ASTR 12004	Biology for Non-Majors or Biology or Physical Science or Introduction to Chemistry or Introduction to Astronomy	4	
EDHP 21063	K-12 Educational Technology	3	Spring Only
HIST 21103 HIST 21203	U.S. History I or U.S. History II	3	Need to add
PLSC 20003	American Government	3	Need to add
	Total Credit Hours for AAS Early Childhood Education	60	Update when new courses are added