



Special Needs Educator Certificate

Program Outline

PROGRAM NAME: *Special Needs Educator Certificate*

PROGRAM HOURS: 470

PROGRAM DURATION: 25 weeks, full-time

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This program is designed to assist students to gain the skills necessary to work with children who need extra support in a child care setting. The courses examine the benefits of inclusion, describe the effects of a disability on children's development and the family overall, explain intervention strategies and early identification and discuss strategies for early childhood educators to maximize the potential of children with extra support needs.

CAREER OCCUPATION

This program prepares graduates to work in group licensed child care facilities as a certified Special Needs Educator (SNE) and in related careers in the sector of Early Childhood Education.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of this program, students will be able to understand inclusion and its implications for families, children and staff; become familiar with the major areas of disability that can affect young children, develop an awareness of factors involved in identifying young children who need extra support; know how to design the environment of a child care setting to facilitate the inclusion of children who need extra support; be familiar with community resources including knowledge of referral procedures; and develop strategies for expanding and enriching early childhood programs to benefit the experiences of all children.

METHODS OF EVALUATION

The final grade for each course will be calculated and weighted based on grades received for the assignments and exam. The final outcome for the practicum will be calculated and weighted based on satisfactory completion and submission of the assignments, activities and evaluation(s) required.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

A student is eligible to graduate from a program when he/she has successfully completed all courses and practicums in that program. Students are required to receive a passing grade of "C" or higher for all academic courses and a "Pass" for all practicums. Upon completion of all three Certificate programs, students are granted an ECE Diploma.

Transfer students must have completed at least the majority (51%) of the training through Pacific Rim Early Childhood Institute in order to receive a Certificate or Diploma. Students completing a certificate or diploma that have not taken the majority of the program through PRECI may still order and receive a transcript of courses.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

A complete list of required textbooks can be found in our [textbook list](#).



TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

To successfully complete the program, students will need to have regular access to a reliable computer with access to the Internet, a personal email account, Microsoft Word (or an equivalent to read and write .doc or .docx files), and Acrobat Reader (or equivalent to read .pdf files). In addition, students will require access to a printer and scanner.

FEES AND OTHER EXPENSES

Exam proctors may charge a fee to supervise the final exam. This fee will vary depending on the proctor a student has selected. The proctor fee is usually between \$30 and \$75 per exam.

PENALTIES

Students are required to abide by the ECEBC [Code of Ethics](#) at all times, submit original work (no cheating or plagiarism), respect all staff members and members of the community, submit assignments on time, submit extension requests on time (if required), submit complete assignments which follow the grading criteria, act professionally, maintain a clear criminal record check for the purposes of working with children, and comply with all the requirements of the Student Enrollment Contract. The “Academic Dishonesty Policy” and “Dismissal Policy” are available to read in the [Student Handbook](#).

Program Organization

This Special Needs Educator Certificate Program is made up of the following courses, which should be taken in the order listed. The learning of each course will build on and reinforce the learning of the previous course.

- **Infant/Toddler Growth and Development** (10 weeks – 70 hours)
- **Working with Families** (10 weeks – 45 hours)
- **Centre Administration** (10 weeks – 45 hours)
- **Special Needs I** (10 weeks – 65 hours)
- **Special Needs II** (10 weeks – 45 hours)
- **Special Needs Practicum** (5 week full time block – 200 hours)