

**CAREER-TECHNICAL EDUCATION****Early Childhood Professions**

This Career-Technical Education Program is designed for students interested in careers working with children from birth through eight years of age. Students study the theory of child development, children's health and safety, guidance techniques, early learning content standards, curriculum design and lesson planning. Level II students participate in internships, which may include paid employment in the child care field. Both Level I and II students interact with preschool children in a lab experience setting. Throughout the course, students create activities, projects, and lesson plans, which will become part of a toolkit they will use as they begin their career. Emphasis is placed on the development of a Child Development Associate Credential (CDA) portfolio to showcase the mastery of the course standards.

**Skills necessary for success**

- Ability to work independently and follow directions
- Critical thinking skills and problem solving abilities
- Self-confidence to assume responsibility for the care and safety of children
- Ability to communicate effectively by leading a group of young children and working with other professionals
- Capable of developing and implementing creative lesson plans based on Early Learning Content Standards
- Attaining computer and technology skills to create teaching tools

**Recommendations**

- Excellent attendance record (93% attendance required for the Career Passport)
- Minimum 2.5 GPA (maintained for the Career Passport)

**Career interests/helpful background**

- Experience working with children
- Family and Consumer Sciences courses

**Career opportunities/professional pathways**

- Preschool Teacher
- Childcare Center Staff
- Paraprofessional (Educational Aide)
- In-Home Day Care
- Elementary, Special Education or Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher
- Child Psychologist
- Physical Therapist
- Recreation Director
- Speech and Language Pathologist
- Social Worker

**Higher education opportunities**

- College credits available. See page 37.
- Associate's Degree in Early Childhood Development
- Bachelor's Degrees: Education, Family and Child Development, Child Life Specialist, Child Psychology

**Licenses/certification**

- Communicable Disease, First Aid, CPR and Child Abuse Recognition certifications
- Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential

**Grades: 10, 11, 12**  
**Length: Two years**  
**School: Tallmadge, David Bacon Building**

**COURSES & CREDITS:**  
**Level I - Curriculum and Instruction for Early Childhood Education 2; Early Childhood Education Principles 1.**  
**Level II - Classroom Management 2; Health Safety and Nutrition 1.**

