

Program Information

Early Childhood Education

2025/2026

Program Overview	The Early Childhood Education (ECE) Diploma program prepares you to nurture and guide the next generation. Whether you are passionate about helping children explore their world, fostering creativity, or laying the foundation for lifelong learning, this program offers a pathway to a fulfilling career. Key features include provisional accreditation by the Child Care Qualifications and Training Committee (CCQTC), an Early Childhood Educator (ECE) II classification, and a curriculum that incorporates Indigenous perspectives.
Area of Study	Health & Human Services
Credential	Diploma
Program Length	2 Years Full time (22 months) Students in this program can expect to attend classes for 10 months, followed by a 2-month break, and then another 10 months of study. This excludes student success weeks and holidays.
Delivery	In-classroom This program is primarily taught in person during full-day sessions, with less than 10% of course content delivered online.

Work-Integrated Learning	21-week practicum
Accreditation	Graduates will be able to apply for the Early Childhood Educator (ECE) Level II qualification in Manitoba, giving you a variety of career options in early learning and child care settings.
Open to International Students	Yes
CIP Code	19.0709

Career Outcomes

- Early Childhood Educator (ECE II)
- Infant and preschool educator

All Courses

Course Name	Description	Hours
Child Development 1: The Early Years (ECE-200)	This course will provide students with an understanding of the historical and current theories of child development, including research approaches to prenatal, infant, and toddler development.	80 hours
Written Communication Skills (ECE-210)	This course focuses on the development and practice of writing skills and forms of written communication. Students learn to create documents and use online tools that are required for success in the Early Childhood Education program.	40 hours

Interpersonal Communication (ECE-220)	The focus of this course is to help students understand, evaluate, and improve their interactions with others in their personal and professional lives. Students will learn to recognize issues regarding listening, conflict resolution, assertiveness, and non-verbal communication. Emphasis is on mastering skills to prevent issues with miscommunication to the daily lives of the students.	40 hours
Observation and Documentation (ECE-230)	This course is a foundational introduction to observation and documentation. Students will learn how to write anecdotal observations and use the webbing tool to explore deeper interests, concept and skill development, as well as the link to program planning. Students will also create a documentation board based on an observation as a visual representation of children's learning.	40 hours
Play and the Environment (ECE-240)	This course focuses on early learning programs and childcare for children from infancy to 6 years of age. The importance of play and building relationships through responsive interactions is explored. Students will apply knowledge of planning and implementing developmentally curriculum to support learning in an inclusive environment.	40 hours
Introduction to Early Childhood Education (ECE-250)	This course presents an overview of early childhood care and education. Students will gain an appreciation of the historical development of child care, including Canadian and Indigenous perspectives, as well as provincial regulations and their	40 hours

	impact on a variety of program approaches to curriculum.	
Family (ECE-260)	This course explores the changes to family life in Canada. Students examine a variety of family challenges and issues that have direct relevance to early learning and child care.	40 hours
Health and Safety (ECE-270)	This course provides students with the knowledge and skills necessary to promote the well-being of children and explores topics such as illness recognition, prevention, and universal precautions. Students will learn about the provision of a safe environment in childcare and the role and responsibilities of the early childhood educator in recognizing, preventing, reporting, and handling child abuse and neglect as per licensing standards and "best practice" protocols.	80 hours
Personal Development (ECE-280)	Students will explore and develop an appreciation for their role as a professional in the lives of young children. They will look at ways to be a change agent through advocacy and work within Manitoba.	40 hours
Child Development 2: Preschool Years (ECE-300)	This course is a continuation of Child Development 1: The Early Years, with a focus on children from 3 to 6 years of age. Students will develop an understanding of the major theories and research findings that examine physical, cognitive, social, emotional and language skills development so that they may work	80 hours

	with children effectively within a holistic and inclusive environment.	
Practicum 1 Seminar (ECE-305)	This seminar prepares students for the ECE Practicum 1 experience, including the practicum placement, observation, and evaluation processes. Topics include key practicum roles and responsibilities, assignment requirements, and evaluation structure.	10 hours
Early Childhood Education Practicum 1 (ECE-310)	This practicum is the foundational experience within a series of three practicums in the Early Childhood Education Program. Students will put newly acquired knowledge and skills into practice. This experience provides opportunities to build positive relationships, practice positive guiding strategies, implement learning experience plans and participate in authentic play experiences with children. Students will engage in reflective practice and apply feedback to enhance emerging skills. Curriculum focuses on story-telling, process-based art, and blocks.	272 hours
Curriculum and the Environment 1 (ECE-320)	The first course of four curriculum courses will introduce students to curriculum and pedagogy, as well as key approaches and frameworks. Topics will include literacy and storytelling, process-based art and blocks, as well as the set-up for each. Students will create and adjust learning experience plans based on feedback, which they will implement during practicum.	80 hours

Professionalism (ECE-330)	Students will explore and develop an appreciation for their role as a professional in the lives of young children. They will look at ways to be a change agent through advocacy and work within Manitoba.	40 hours
Curriculum and the Environment 2 (ECE-410)	This is the second course in a series of four curriculum courses. Key topics will include sensory play, music and movement and dramatic play, as well as the set-up for each. Students will create and adjust learning experience plans based on feedback, which they will implement during practicum.	80 hours
Child Nutrition (ECE-420)	This course addresses fundamental concepts of nutrition. Students will study essential nutrients and learn about promoting healthy eating for children. Students will develop a working knowledge of Canada's Food Guide and utilize this knowledge in the planning and preparation of healthy snacks and meals.	40 hours
Family and Community Relationships (ECE-430)	This course focuses on the partnership between the parent and Early Childhood Educator while promoting the importance of parent education and parent involvement in the centre. Students will learn how to make reports to parents and understand the diversity of families and the needs of families with atypical or mainstream children. Students will develop their knowledge of the community, as well as how to access community services and contribute positively to their community.	40 hours

Curriculum and the Environment 3 (ECE-440)	This course emphasizes outdoor and nature-based play, along with STEAM activities. Students will create and implement learning experiences during practicum, refining their teaching approaches.	80 hours
Inclusive Practices in Early Childhood Education (ECE-450)	This course provides an introduction to the diversity of Canadian culture with an emphasis on empathy and creating an inclusive classroom. Understanding the diversity of Canadian classrooms and ways this affects personality, language, cognitive development, and socialization is a crucial skill for an Early Childhood Educator. In this course, students acquire skills for creating inclusive learning environments and curriculum in Early Childhood Education.	40 hours
Indigenous Perspectives in Early Childhood Education (ECE-460)	The course will provide students with an introduction to perspectives related to working with Indigenous families in Canada, particularly in Manitoba. Students will explore historical perspectives, current trends, and new directions for the future of education of Indigenous peoples and Canadians.	40 hours
School-Age Development and Curriculum (ECE-470)	Students will develop knowledge and skills for working with children aged 5 through 12. The course focuses on the unique needs of school-age children and how these needs are met through a developmentally appropriate approach to programming. Students will learn about child development patterns and milestones in middle childhood. Attention is paid to the various roles of the early	80 hours

	childhood educator in the designing, planning, and implementing of an inclusive environment with emphasis on developing an appropriate physical, social-emotional, and cognitive atmosphere.	
Professional Behaviour Practices (ECE-480)	Career resilience in the ever-changing field of early childhood education depends on current knowledge, key competencies, evidence-based practices, and lifelong learning. Through guided discussion, this course will examine key performance indicators of high quality early childhood care programs and how professional behaviour practices contributes to this outcome. Students will define a professional philosophy to help guide career decisions and strategies. The impact of emerging political, regulatory, and social change on early childhood education advocacy work will also be explored.	40 hours
Practicum 2 Seminar (ECE-495)	This seminar prepares students for the ECE Practicum 2 experience, including the practicum placement, observation, and evaluation processes. Topics include key practicum roles and responsibilities, assignment requirements, and evaluation structure.	10 hours
Early Childhood Education Practicum 2 (ECE-500)	This practicum is the second in a series of three Early Childhood Education practicum experiences. This experience will provide opportunities to foster positive relationships with families and children, strengthen guiding techniques, and refine health and safety practices.	272 hours

	Students will implement learning experience plans and expand on play experiences with children. Students will engage in reflective practice and apply feedback to enhance emerging skills. Curriculum focuses on sensory play, music and movement, and dramatic play.	
Practicum 3 Seminar (ECE-505)	This seminar prepares students for the ECE Practicum 3 experience, including the practicum placement, observation, and evaluation processes. Topics include key practicum roles and responsibilities, assignment requirements, and evaluation structure.	15 hours
Early Childhood Education Practicum 3 (ECE-510)	This practicum is the final in a series of three Early Childhood Education practicums. This experience will provide opportunities to initiate non-positive, judgmental relationships with families and children, refine guiding techniques, and lead health and safety initiatives. Students will implement learning experience plans and seize teachable moments during play experiences with children. Students will engage in reflective practice and integrate feedback appropriately into future actions. Curriculum focuses on outdoor and nature-based play and STEAM.	272 hours
Guiding Young Children 1 (ECE-291)	This first guiding course introduces students to basic guiding strategies that promote prosocial behaviour in children, as well as positive child and early childhood educator relationships. The course examines typical characteristics	40 hours

	and needs of children across various chronological and developmental stages.	
Guiding Young Children 2 (ECE-292)	This course builds on the concepts introduced in Guiding Young Children 1 with a focus on strategies that encourage and promote prosocial behaviour. Students will explore the role of rules and consequences, as well as how guiding language shapes behaviour.	40 hours
Advanced Behaviour Guidance 1 (ECE-401)	Building on themes from the earlier guidance courses, this course explores how the physical environment affects behaviour. Students will be introduced to the running record tool and the seven-step process to problem solving.	40 hours
Advanced Behaviour Guidance 2 (ECE-402)	This is the final course in the series of four guidance courses. Students will explore aggressiveness and bullying behaviour in children and effective guiding strategies. Students will also be introduced to the ABC Observation tool and Tally Sampling Record.	40 hours
Early Childhood Education Capstone 1 (ECE-370)	The Early Childhood Education Capstone 1 course provides students an opportunity to debrief their Practicum 1 experience. Students will explore their unique professional self through reflective practice and create a professional portfolio. Through this course, student will develop collaborative solution-focused problem-solving skills.	40 hours