



# JUMP-START YOUR FUTURE

## WITH A CAREER IN **EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

DO YOU HAVE AN INTEREST IN TEACHING? GAIN VALUABLE SKILLS,  
EARN COLLEGE CREDIT, AND GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL JOB-READY AS YOU TAKE  
THE FIRST STEP IN A MEANINGFUL AND FULFILLING CAREER CHOICE!

**Early Childhood Educators are Essential.** If you're looking for a career that truly makes a difference in the world, you should consider becoming an early childhood educator. In the early years of a child's life, more than one million new, neural connections are formed within the brain every second - creating the foundation for all later learning, behavior, and health. Early childhood education is a great career choice for motivated students who are interested in becoming teachers. Employment opportunities include careers in the education and the development of young children, such as teaching children through the third grade.

# WHICH PATHWAY WILL LEAD TO YOUR CAREER GOALS?

INCOME LEVEL: \$\$\$\$

## ADVANCED DEGREE

30-60 CREDIT HOURS

*Master's Degree, Doctorate Degree*

- » Faculty for a College or University
- » State Advocacy or Administrative Role
- » District Curriculum Director
- » Early Childhood Educator III\*

INCOME LEVEL: \$\$\$

## BACHELOR'S DEGREE

120 CREDIT HOURS

- » Family Home Child Care Educator
- » Early Childhood Educator III\*
- » Early Childhood Program Director
- » Afterschool Educator

*ADD Specialized Training with a Bachelor's degree*

- » Early Childhood Education Special Educator (birth to age 6)

INCOME LEVEL: \$\$

## ASSOCIATE DEGREE

60 CREDIT HOURS

- » Family Home Child Care Educator
- » Early Childhood Educator II\*
- » Early Childhood Education Assistant

## CHILD CARE CERTIFICATE

21 CREDITS

- » Early Childhood Education Assistant
- » Early Childhood Educator I\*
- » ECE Child Care Apprentice

### EMPLOYMENT SETTINGS:

#### FAMILY HOME CHILD CARE

- WHERE: In Home Business Owner or Self-Employed
- AGES: Multi-age care

#### LICENSED CARE

- WHERE: In Classrooms
- AGES: Infant, toddler or preschool classrooms, and afterschool

#### PUBLIC SCHOOL

- WHERE: In Classrooms
- AGES: Preschool-Grade 3, and afterschool

### FUNDAMENTAL SKILLS NEEDED:

- Has knowledge of child development
- Maintains ethical practices and follows a code of ethics
- Demonstrates professional written and oral communication with families, colleagues, and community
- Works as a collaborative team member
- Develops and maintains positive and professional relationships with families
- Practices continuous professional growth

INCOME LEVEL: \$

## HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE & CREDIT BEARING COURSEWORK

3-15 CREDITS

- » Early Childhood Educator I\*
- » Early Childhood Educator Associate
- » Early Childhood Education Assistant

## HIGH SCHOOL

3-15 CREDITS

- » Dual High School Enrollment
- » ECE Youth Apprenticeship with work stipend
- » Trainee
- » Volunteer
- » Substitute

## READY. SET. TEACH!

In addition to helping shape future generations, **teaching young children can be incredibly fun and rewarding.** On a daily basis, you may find yourself laughing, dancing, reading, singing, and creating alongside eager and open little minds that will inspire your own thinking in new and different ways. If you are looking for meaningful work and a hands-on career that offers variety, creativity, and independence, then becoming an early childhood educator is the career for you!

\*Based on Recommendations from the VT Office of Professional Regulation

**vtaeyc** Vermont Association for the Education of Young Children

**JUMP-START** your career as an Early Childhood Educator today!  
Learn more at: **WWW.VTAEYC.ORG**

