

Early Childhood Education

The Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education with Certification

**For students graduating before 2013*

This program combines a sound liberal arts background with specific training in educational and child psychology, in curriculum methods and materials, and in extensive fieldwork. The program is approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE). Following successful completion of all coursework, including student teaching and testing, the student will be able to apply for the Pennsylvania Instructional I Certificate. A student applies to the College's Education Department after completing 60 credits, including two English and Math courses, as outlined below.

In addition to your core Liberal Arts requirements and program prerequisites, 48 credits are required in the major.

The following courses are major requirements:

- Foundations of Education
- Educational Psychology
- Psychology of Child Development
- Reading/Children's Literature
- Writing/Rubrics
- Administration of Children's Programs
- Designing an Early Childhood Environment I
- Designing and Early Childhood Environment II
- Introduction to Special Education
- Strategies for Teaching Math
- Educational Technology
- Supervised Practicum I
- Senior Seminar
- Student Teaching Seminar
- Student Teaching

The following courses are program prerequisites:

- Introduction to Sociology
- Introduction to Psychology
- Mathematics: Theory and Application I
- Mathematics: Theory and Application II
- American or British Literature
- American History Survey I or II

State requirements for field experience can be satisfied through a Supervised Practicum accomplished in one of the following ways: a) two (2) full-week experiences; or b) ten (10) single-day experiences. The selected format must be completed within a single 16-week period. Supervised Practicum completed at other collegiate institutions may be eligible for transfer. Supervised Student Teaching, a 14-week experience, takes place during the first semester of a student's senior year, and incorporates observation, participation, and actual teaching in an assigned public or private elementary school.

For detailed course descriptions, visit www.chc.edu



Portfolio Development

During the course of their undergraduate studies, students will also compile a portfolio(s) containing: summaries of classroom observations and fieldwork completed before student teaching; evidence of computer skills; unit plans designed to accommodate diverse populations; examples of cooperative learning strategies; a statement of philosophy; photographs; anecdotal records; and other miscellaneous documentation considered critical for pre-service teachers. Academic advisors and/or Education faculty are available to guide each student toward successful portfolio development.

Certification Program Admissions Requirements

Candidates for Early Childhood Education should apply for formal acceptance to the certification program after completion of 60 credits, with at least 12 credits completed at Chestnut Hill College (CHC). A 3.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA) and two (2) letters of recommendation are also required at time of application to the certification program. Praxis I tests must be completed successfully prior to acceptance into certification program. Praxis II tests must be completed successfully prior to Certification. Additional admissions requirements for the certification program in Elementary Education are outlined in the School of Continuing and Professional Studies Catalog, located at www.chc.edu.

Exit Program Competencies

All students must be able to cognitively and physically meet competencies organized by the following three categories: Knowing the Content; Performance; and Professionalism. Each student will present a comprehensive portfolio that contains materials prescribed by the department attesting to the mastery of the competencies.

Transferring Credit

Students can transfer up to 75 credits from another accredited college or university. Our experiential Portfolio Assessment service can also help you earn credits for on-the-job experience and training programs.

NOTE: The PA State Board of Education passed Chapter 49.1 and 49.2 regulations that significantly reconfigure the certification requirements for instructional programs. Students who begin in the Fall of 2009 and complete their program NO LATER than August 2013 (inclusive of Praxis I and II tests) will be able to complete the current certification programs (Early Childhood Pre-K -3 and Elementary K-6) and obtain their certification. Depending on the situation, students may also need to take additional courses in special education and ESL, to meet new PDE regulations. Students who do not complete their program by 2013 (either May or August 2013) will be required to have a re-evaluation of their program and determined what additional courses may be necessary to obtain certification.

If you have any questions about this, please talk to your advisor or Dr. Pate, Chair of the Education Department.

Ready To Take the Next Step?

Call 215.248.7062 or email chcaadm@chc.edu

We hope this provided you with some additional information to help you make your decision. If you're ready to take the next step in your education, we're ready to help you. To schedule a personal visit with an Admissions Counselor, call 215.248.7062 or email chcaadm@chc.edu

