

# Washington State Stackable Certificates

## Early Childhood Education Statewide Certificates

In Washington State, early learning professionals who want to further their education have a clear path to follow: stackable certificates/degrees are made up of common courses available statewide. Visit the ECE Career Planning Portal to learn more: <https://ececareers.dcyf.wa.gov>.

Colleges across the state offer common course numbers, course titles, course descriptions and student outcomes that are consistent within the professional development system. Students earn “stackable” certificates that stack upon each other, each one composed of courses students are required to take and that build on one another in a sequential manner, deepening students’ levels of applied learning along the way.

All courses are aligned with the *Washington State Core Competencies for Early Care and Education Professionals* (EPS\_0023) available online at [www.dcyf.wa.gov/publications-library/eps\\_0023](http://www.dcyf.wa.gov/publications-library/eps_0023).

**INITIAL ECE CERTIFICATE**  
12 Credits

ECED& 105, Intro to Early Childhood Education (5 credits)  
ECED& 107, Health, Safety, and Nutrition (5 credits)  
ECED& 120, Practicum: Focus on Relationships & Communication (2 credits)

TOTAL: 12 Credits

**SHORT ECE CERTIFICATE OF SPECIALIZATION**  
8 Credits

The Initial ECE Certificate PLUS EDUC& 115, Child Development (5 credits), and one of the following specializations.

**General:**  
EDUC& 130, Guiding Behavior (3 credits)

**Infant Toddler Care:**  
ECED & 132, Infant Toddler Care (3 credits)

**School-age Care:**  
EDUC& 136, School Age Care (3 credits)

**Family Child Care:**  
ECED& 134, Family Child Care (3 credits)

**Administration:**  
ECED& 139, Admin Early Learning (3 credits)

**Home Visitor/Family Engagement:**  
ECED& 138, Home Visitor/Family Engagement (3 credits)

**Outdoor Education:**  
ECED&137, Outdoor Education (3 credits)

**INITIAL ECE CERTIFICATE** 12 Credits

TOTAL: 20 Credits

**STATE CERTIFICATE**  
27-32 Credits

The Short ECE Certificate of Specialization PLUS the following.

English 100 or 101 or above (5 credits)  
Math: qualitative or conceptual math 100 or above or designated “Q/SR” (5 credits)  
EDUC& 150, Child/Family/Community (3 credits)  
ECED& 160 Curriculum Development (5 credits)  
ECED& 180, Language/Literacy (3 credits)  
ECED& 190, Observation and Assessment (3 credits)

*Please note: Additional 3-8 credits vary by college or specialization.*

**SHORT ECE CERTIFICATE OF SPECIALIZATION** 8 Credits

**INITIAL ECE CERTIFICATE** 12 Credits

TOTAL: 47 – 52 Credits

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