

A.S. in Early Childhood Education/Child Care

DESCRIPTION OF THE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION/CHILD CARE PROGRAM

The associate in science (A.S.) degree in Early Childhood Education/Childcare prepares students for careers in a variety of roles in early childhood settings. Students learn about pedagogic theory and practice, then further develop their skills by doing fieldwork in schools and childcare centers. Such experiences are not only rewarding in themselves, but sometimes our students receive job offers as a result! In addition, our program has articulation agreements with many CUNY senior colleges, so that there can be a smooth transition to completion of a bachelor's degree.

SKILLS

Communication skills. Childcare workers must be able to talk with parents and colleagues about the progress of the children in their care. They need good speaking skills to provide this information effectively and good listening skills to understand parents' instructions.

Physical stamina. Working with children can be physically taxing, so childcare workers should have a lot of energy.

Decision-making skills. Good judgment is necessary for childcare workers so they can respond to emergencies or difficult situations.

CAREER INFORMATION

Preschool teachers in public schools generally work during school hours. Many work the traditional 10-month school year and have a 2-month break during the summer. Some preschool teachers may teach in summer programs. Preschool and childcare center directors supervise and lead staffs, design program plans, oversee daily activities, and prepare budgets. They are responsible for all aspects of their center's program.

EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK

Employment of childcare workers is projected to grow 6 percent from 2021 to 2031, about as fast as the average for all occupations. Employment of preschool teachers is projected to grow 15 percent from 2021 to 2031, much faster than the average for all occupations.

CAREER PATH

The median annual wage for preschool teachers was \$30,210 in May 2021. About 63,100 openings for preschool teachers are projected each year, on average, over the decade. Many of those openings are expected to result from the need to replace workers who transfer to different occupations or exit the labor force, such as to retire. The median hourly wage for childcare workers was \$13.22 in May 2021. Education and training requirements for childcare workers vary by setting, state, and employer. They range from no formal education to certification in early childhood education.

CAREER COACH – SEARCH CAREER INFORMATION & CURRENT LOCAL WAGE DATA

<https://kingsborough.emsicc.com/programs/early-childhood-educationchild-care-as/190619?region=New York>

INFORMATION ON HOW TO APPLY: www.cuny.edu/apply or 718-368-4600

01-2023

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