

# EARLY CHILDHOOD TEACHER PATHWAYS

## Cuesta College

Early Childhood Teacher Pathways prepare students to work with children from infancy into middle childhood in a variety of learning environments. These Pathways will educate and train students to become effective teachers; provide hands on learning in the classroom; and support students to develop as teaching professionals.

The California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) issues Child Development Permits (CDP) at six levels (from Assistant Teacher to Program Director) that authorize the holder to provide care, development and instruction in early learning programs, supervise staff, coordinate curriculum and staff development, and manage a child development program. Click [here](#) for more information about CTC [Child Development Permits](#).

Two Early Childhood Teacher Pathways that prepare students for the Teacher and Master Teacher Permits are highlighted:

### Child Development Teacher and Master Teacher Permits

- i** 1. The [Child Development Teacher Permit](#) authorizes the holder to provide care and instruction of children in early learning programs and supervise Assistant Teachers.
- 2. The [Child Development Master Teacher Permit](#) authorizes the holder to provide care and instruction of children, to supervise Teachers, and to serve as a coordinator of curriculum and staff development in early learning programs.

### Two Early Childhood Teacher Pathways

- i** **Option 1:**
  1. Earn the [AA in Early Childhood Education](#)
  2. Complete the field experience requirements by working in the ECE field to gain experience teaching infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.
- Option 2:**
  1. Earn the [AS-T in Early Childhood Education, Sample 2 Year Plan](#) plus ECE 245, Adult Supervision, and six ECE specialization units
  2. Complete a [BA/BS degree in ECE, Child Development, or similar major](#)
  3. Complete the field experience requirements by working in the ECE field to gain experience teaching infants, toddlers and preschoolers.
    - Earning a BA/BS degree will allow students to work in the broader field of ECE or Child Development in a variety of professional roles.
    - By completing the AS-T in ECE, students will complete all of the lower division major and general education requirements for a B.A. degree. Completion of the AS-T in ECE will also guarantee admission to ECE, Child Development, or “similar” major at a CSU campus, with no more than 60 additional units, after transfer to earn a B.A. degree.

## BA in ECE, Child Development or “similar” major

**i** All of the CSU campuses, with the exception of Maritime Academy, offer an ECE, Child Development, or similar major and eighteen of those CSU campuses accept Cuesta College’s AS-T in ECE as sufficient transfer preparation. The four impacted CSU campuses may require additional coursework for admission (Cuesta College counselors can provide specific information).

UC San Diego offers a Human Development major, with a concentration from birth to adolescence. Students who are interested in UCSD should follow the requirements listed on [www.assist.org](http://www.assist.org) and complete the IGETC general education requirements.

## Applying for a Child Development Permit

**i** Individuals applying for a Child Development Permit must submit to the [Commission on Teacher Credentialing](#) a completed application packet consisting of the following:

1. Official transcripts verifying course work and/or letters verifying experience appropriate to the permit type
2. Completed application ([form 41-4](#))
3. Application [processing fees](#)
4. First-time applicants must submit a completed Live Scan receipt ([form 41-LS](#)) verifying that fingerprints have been taken and fees have been paid. Out-of-state residents must submit two fingerprint cards (FD-258) and fingerprint [processing fees](#) in lieu of a Live Scan receipt.

The [Child Development Training Consortium](#) (CDTC) is another great resource for Cuesta College students who want to work in early learning environments. The CDTC is funded by the California Department of Education and provides financial and technical assistance to child development/early childhood education students and professionals to promote high quality early education for California's children and families.

If you would like more information or have questions about the Teacher or Master Teacher Pathways, the AA or AS-T in ECE, or the university transfer process, please contact the Cuesta College Counseling Department 805-546-3138(SLO) or 805-591-6241(NCC).