

**NORTHERN LIGHTS COLLEGE
REGISTRAR'S OFFICE
PROGRAM INFORMATION AND COMPLETION GUIDE**

Program Name: Early Childhood Education and Care
Credential/Certification: Diploma in Infant/Toddler Education
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Program Description: The Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) Diploma in Infant/Toddler Education program at Northern Lights College (NLC) provides opportunities to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to work in early care and learning programs in British Columbia (BC) supporting the care and education of children birth through 12 years of age and their families. Educators use their specialized education to create and maintain inclusive and safe environments that encourage exploration for all children, while being responsive to children's needs and interests. Working within diverse communities and programs, Educators use reflective and collaborative practices to support children's understanding and engagement with the world.

The NLC ECEC Diploma in Infant/Toddler Education program offers a variety of delivery methods including distance/online, on campus, and Work Integrated Learning (WIL), which enables students to remain in their home communities while integrating theoretical and practical experiences. The theory course work and practicum experiences prepares students to apply for BC Early Childhood Educator Registry certification (including Early Childhood Educator Assistant certification, Early Childhood Educator certification, and Infant/Toddler post basic certification) at various points during the program.

Admission Requirements:

1. Domestic students and students from counties that practice Standard Written English ([see Appendix A](#)) must have official transcripts demonstrating that they have met the English Requirements: One of the following with a 'C' grade or higher: English 12 or English Literature 12 or English First Peoples 12, ENGL 050, or ENGL 099. Alternatively, any university-level English course with a 'C' grade or higher.

Students who do not meet one of the above English Requirements must complete the NLC Writing Assessment for appropriate course placement.

2. International students who do not meet the requirement A above, and domestic students who received their secondary education in French or another language, must show that they have met the NLC English requirement: [see Appendix A \(General Academic English Language Proficiency Requirements\)](#).

Post Admission Requirement:

1. A clearance letter from the Ministry of Public Safety & Solicitor General for a Schedule B Criminal Record Check (works with Children) or (works with Children and Vulnerable Adults) must be received prior to course registration.

Students who have completed a valid Schedule B CRC for another organization may share their results with Northern Lights College by completing the Sharing Form.

*Note that CRCs must be renewed if they expire before the program is completed.

Under no circumstances are students permitted to complete any practical work without having a CRC on file with NLC's Office of the Registrar. Failure to ensure a valid CRC is on file with the Office of the Registrar may result in a requirement to withdraw from the program. Students are obligated to report any Schedule B criminal convictions that occur after they authorize a CRC but are still enrolled in NLC's Early Childhood Education and Care Programs.

Please see NLC's Criminal Record Check procedures for instructions on how to complete a CRC.

2. Submission of ECE Program Questionnaire that supports suitability for the profession and course advising.

3. Applicants to the Work Integrated Learning (WIL) cohort must submit a completed Employer Agreement Form. (WIL applicants only).

Length of Program: (weeks and total hours)

62 credits (1370 hours), minimum, including 16 academic/theory courses (720 hours) and 4 practicum courses (650 hours). Typically, this is a two year program taken over four semesters with a minimum of 15 credits per semester. Part-time studies will take longer.

The NLC ECEC Diploma in Infant/Toddler Education program may be completed over a two-year period of full-time studies that may include Spring and Summer semesters/terms. Part-time study is also an option for distance/online and on campus study only. Work Integrated Learning is a full time study option only.

For both full- and part-time students, program completion time may vary depending on the availability of courses and on individual course selection.

Program Intake: (start/finish dates)

Distance/Online: September (Fall), January (Winter), May (Spring) - All intakes available for full or part time program starts or for returning/reactivating students.

On Campus Cohorts: September (Fall) - for full time or part time program start.

Work Integrated Learning (WIL) Cohort: January (Winter) for full time program start.

*For On Campus and Work Integrated Learning Cohorts: students who are returning/reactivating or who have completed some course work in any delivery must contact the ECE department (ece-ea-office@nlc.bc.ca or ece-ea-chair@nlc.bc.ca) for academic advising if they wish to join or proceed in a cohort.

Available Seats:

Application Deadline: August 1st for fall intake with semester courses beginning in September; December 1st for winter intake with semester courses beginning in January; April 1st for Intersession (Spring) intake with semester courses beginning in May.

Career Prospects:

Early Childhood Educators with BC ECE Registry certification* may be employed as educators, supervisors, managers, directors, or administrators of early care and learning programs.

With additional relevant education (e.g., a Child and Youth Care Degree, Social Work Degree, or an Early Childhood Education graduate degree), Early Childhood Educators may find work as child development counsellors or consultants, family resource centre coordinators, child care resource and referral consultants/co-ordinators, licensing officers, researchers, or instructors.

Students planning on transferring to further post-secondary programs are encouraged to complete ENGL 100 Academic Writing in addition to the NLC's ECEC Diploma in Infant/Toddler Education requirements.

*For up-to-date information on the BC ECE Registry requirements, please visit their website.

Affiliations/Partnerships:

1. Graduates of NLC's ECEC Diploma in Infant/Toddler Education are eligible for admission to the Justice Institute of British Columbia's (JIBC) Advanced Specialty Certificate in Community Care Licensing. Transfer Credit at JIBC may be granted for

completion of both HDEC101 Human Development 1 and HDEC 104 Human Development 2.

Location:

Distance/Online: The online course offerings make use of both an online learning platform, Desire to Learn (D2L), and an online webinar application, Microsoft Teams, to allow students to remain in their home communities to complete both theory course work and practicum experiences in early care and learning environments that are approved by NLC. Students unable to locate suitable practicum placements in their home community may need to relocate to another community for one or more of the practicum courses.

On Campus: Face-to-face cohort course offerings are available within the Northern Lights College catchment region and videoconferenced between campuses, including Dawson Creek, Fort St. John, Chetwynd, Fort Nelson, and Tumbler Ridge.

*International students are accepted at either the Dawson Creek or Fort St. John campus. On Campus courses may be offered in other provincial regions depending on student enrollment or special-project funding.

Work Integrated Learning (WIL): The work integrated cohort course offerings blend both an online learning platform, Desire to Learn (D2L), and an online webinar application, Microsoft Teams, to allow students to remain in their home communities at their current early care and learning centre to complete both theory course work and practicum experiences.

*Note that most courses require regular access to children in a licensed early care and learning program regardless of delivery mode.

Students and/or their employers are advised to review NLC's ECEC Admissions web page or contact ECECPRACTICAPlanning@nlc.bc.ca for more information on workplace practicum options and criteria or the ece-ea-chair@nlc.bc.ca for work integrated learning practicum criteria.

Additional Requirements/Supplies: (fees, supplies, materials)

Instruction Related Fees - covering technology costs & assistance; publishing royalties/readings

Textbooks and Licenses for Electronic texts

*For computer and internet requirements refer to the NLC Information Technology Minimum Computer Requirement page located at <https://www.nlc.bc.ca/Services/Information-Technology/minPC>.

Eligibility for Canada Student Loans: (Yes or No)

Yes.

Required Minimum Grade: (overall and/or minimum within a course)

Minimum of C in all courses.

Residency Requirement: (percentage of courses which must be taken at NLC)

25% = 5 courses (4 theory and 1 practicum).

Required Courses: (list courses required to complete credential and total hours for each course)

Typical Year One:

HDEC 100 - 3 credits	Essential Skills for Human Service Workers (45 hours)
HDEC 101 - 3 credits	Human Development 1 (45 hours)
HDEC 102 - 3 credits	Health, Safety and Nutrition (45 hours)
HDEC 103 - 3 credits	Guiding and Caring (45 hours)
HDEC 104 - 3 credits	Human Development 2 (45 hours)
HDEC 121 - 3 credits	Interpersonal Communications (45 hours)
ECEC 100 - 3 credits	Curriculum 1 (45 hours)
ECED 101 - 3 credits	Principles and Practices 1 (45 hours)
ECED 109A - 3 credits	Practicum 1 (130 hours)
ECED 110 - 3 credits	Practicum 2 (130 hours)

Typical Year Two:

ECEC 200- 3 credits	Curriculum 2 (45 hours)
ECEC 201 - 3 credits	Building Professional-Family Partnerships (45 hours)
ECEC 202 - 3 credits	Administration and Leadership in Early Childhood Education (45 hours)
ECEC 203 - 3 credits	Current Perspectives on Practice (45 hours)
ECED 111 - 4 credits	Practicum 3 (165 hours)
ECED 150 - 3 credits	The Early Childhood Education Professional (45 hours)
ECED 203A - 3 credits	Development 3 Infant and Toddlers (45 hours)
ECED 207 - 3 credits	Curriculum 3 Infants and Toddlers (45 hours)
ECED208 - 4 credits	Practicum -- Infant/Toddler (225 hours)
ECED 215 - 3 credits	Curriculum 4 Working with Children with Diverse Abilities (45 hours)

Notes:

1. Graduates who have completed coursework in either NLC's Education Assistant Certificate or Diploma programs can ladder into NLC's Early Childhood Education and Care Diploma in Infant/Toddler Education program.

2. Graduates from NLC's Early Childhood Education and Care Infant/Toddler Education Diploma who want to obtain their final BC ECE Registry Post-Basic ECE certification can apply to the NLC Early Childhood Education and Care Inclusive Education Diploma OR the Human Services Professional Development (HSPD) Advanced Certificate program to take the ECED210 (Diverse Abilities) practicum course.