

Early Childhood Education at SVCC: Stackable Credentials and Degrees

(Spring 2026)

Credential: Gateways Level 2: ECE	Credential: Gateways Level 3: ECE	Degree: AAS in ECE + 2 Credentials: - Gateways Level 4 ECE - Gateways Level 4 ITC	Degree: Associate of Arts (AA) Education, with a concentration in ECE <i>Does not result in Gateways credentials)</i>
Career Path: Educator Assistant	Career Path: Educator/Co-Teacher	Career Path: Lead Teacher, Childcare <i>*see below for Transfer opportunities, Credit for Prior Learning, and Credential information</i>	**Traditional transfer degree. <i>Career Path: after earning a Bachelor's degree and PEL: Public School grades PreK-3</i>
SVCC: F15 certificate	SVCC: F16 certificate	SVCC: 042 AAS + F14	SVCC: 681 AA
ECE 115***	ECE 115	ECE 115	
ECE 114	ECE 114	ECE 114	ECE 114
ECE 118	ECE 118	ECE 118	EDU 105 (2 hrs PH&D)
ECE 228***	ECE 228	ECE 228	EDU 102
	ECE 275	ECE 275	EDU 210
	ECE 240	ECE 240	EDU 220
	ECE 207 (or MAT 106 or higher)	ECE 207 (or MAT 106 or higher)	EDU 221 (IAI humanities)
		ECE 109	ENG 101
		ECE 202	ENG 103
		ECE 250	COM 131
		EDU 105	FYE 101
		EDU 210	MAT 110
		EDU 220	MAT 111
		EDU 221 (or LAN 161 or higher)	+ 6 hours Humanities and Fine Arts +7 hours Sciences (1 life and 1 physical; one must be lab section) +12 hours Social and Behavioral Sciences (9 required, 3 Recommended) +6 hours program/transfer elective - (ECE 118 recommended) +1 hour personal health and development
PED 220	PED 220	PED 220	
PSY 103	PSY 103	PSY 103	
	ENG 101	ENG 101	
		SOC 251	
		COM 131	
		BIO 120	
		FYE 101	
18 credit hours	30 credit hours	60-61 credit hours	65 credit hours

*AAS transfer - [IL Public Act 102-0174](#) (ECACE) ensures transferability of the AAS in ECE with all public (and most private) 4-year institutions in Illinois. Upon completion of the AAS in ECE, students are eligible to apply for Gateways Level 4 credentials in both ECE (early childhood) and ITC (infant/toddler care). As of January 2023 - Active preschool or infant/toddler CDA's = 6 credits (ECE 115, ECE 228) - several exceptions exist. Check with ECE faculty and advisors.

** The AA in ECE is the appropriate path for students unsure of ECE/Elem Ed, and those who desire to complete BA out of state or share they are seeking a transfer that offers a traditional, on-campus, experience. Students become eligible to apply for a Gateways Level 5 credential upon successful completion of a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education at a Gateways entitled 4-year institution.

Students are responsible for remaining in contact with their advisor and their transfer institution requirements.

SVCC ECE Master Course List

Course # & typical offerings	Course Title	Gateways Competencies	Observation/Interview Requirements (bold=in Course Description)	Focus of Observations and Assignments
ECE 115 <i>Fall A</i> <i>Spring OL</i>	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	IRE, PPD	15 hours observing diverse EC environments and ages (5 observations, 3 hours each)	Focus: Interactions, Relationships, and Environments + Professional Dispositions
ECE 114 <i>Fall OL</i> <i>Spring A</i>	Child Care and Development	HGD	Observe 1 preschool age child 3x (~90 minutes each)	Focus on milestones, theorists, and IL Early Learning Standards
ECE 118 <i>Fall OL</i>	Parent-Teacher-Child-Community Relationships	FCR	Interviews- x2	Family Interview Director/Teacher Interview: Family Involvement focus
ECE 228 <i>Fall OL</i>	Child Health, Nutrition and Safety	HSW	Observe - x1	Mandated reported training Environmental observation - Safety focus Caregiver Interview - Child Health Profile
ECE 207 <i>Spring OL</i>	Mathematics for the Young Child	CPD	Preschool Observation x1	Observe & Reflect on instances of math in the environment.
ECE 202 <i>Spring OL</i>	Language and Literacy Development for Young Children	CPD	Preschool Observation x1	Observe & Reflect on interactions that promote emergent language and literacy
ECE 275 <i>Spring OL</i>	Curriculum Development for the Early Childhood Classroom	CPD	Field Experiences Required (x2 - interview/observe & teach a lesson)	-Interview: Authentic Assessment -Curricular Development, Lesson planning & Small Group Teaching: Plan, Teach, Assess and Reflect on a small group lesson
ECE 240 <i>Spring OL</i>	Observation and Assessment of Young Children	O&A	20-hour Field Experience (~1.5 hours each week beginning in week 2 of semester)	Weekly observation and reflection journal with objectives connected to chapter content
ECE 109 <i>Fall OL</i>	Foundations of Infant/Toddler Care	ITC - all competencies IRE, HGD, HSW, FCR, OA, CPD, PPD	50 hours of documented observation in a birth-36 months environment with related assignments, and supervising teacher evaluation (~3-4 hours/week)	-Learning experience development and implementation -Family & practitioner interviews and engagement plan -Focused observations and caregiver interviews -Environmental scan - ITERS-3
ECE 250 <i>Fall/Spring OL</i>	Early Childhood Practicum	CPD, PPD	90 hours of supervised observation (6 hours/week of student teaching beginning in week 1 of semester)	-Lesson Planning & implementation -Personal Philosophy of Education, -Professional Development Plan -Environmental Scan - ECERS-3

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