

## **(042) Associate in Applied Science**

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This program aligns to the AAS/Gateways ECE Level 4 credential.

The Early Childhood Education program provides the academic background and practical experience for people interested in careers in education, including infant, preschool and school-age child care in early childhood centers, family child care homes, parent education, and early childhood program supervision. Coursework focuses on theory, research and program practice pertaining to children prenatal to early school age. Students will have the opportunity to observe and assess children's behaviors and to work directly with children in a supervised setting. This program provides a comprehensive course of study, including physical, cognitive, social and emotional development of young children, curriculum development, literature and language arts, creative activities for teaching art, music, math and science, behavior guidance, health and nutrition, and one supervised practicum experience.

### **Credential Program Description**

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Students enrolled in Early Childhood programs at Sauk Valley Community College will be eligible to complete credentials through Gateways to Opportunities state professional development system for ECE levels 2, 3 and 4. Benefits of this credentialing process increase a student's employability through ACCESS Illinois and make students eligible for scholarship opportunities and wage differentials.

### **Work and Employment**

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The early childhood education program is designed to educate professionals for a diverse and challenging field. Employment opportunities for graduates of the early childhood education program are very positive, whether pursuing a career in a group day care, preschool setting, or in family care.

### **Criminal History Check Policy**

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Illinois law requires licensed early childhood programs to conduct a criminal background investigation on applicants for employment. Employment of individuals who have been convicted of committing or attempting to commit offenses that may put children in harm's way is prohibited. Laws vary according to the agency and their licensing body.

Students who perform classroom observations through coursework at Sauk Valley Community College may be required by the selected school/site to undergo a criminal background check prior to placement. Students may be denied at any observation site based on the results of that check.

Students who feel their criminal background may exclude them from observation or employment should seek counseling with SVCC faculty or advising staff early in their program to determine how it may affect their participation and eligibility.

### **Program Contacts at Sauk Valley Community College**

Academic Advising, 815/835-6354;

Janis Jones, Assistant Professor of Education, 815/835-6410.

Major Field Requirements - Sem/Hrs: 41-42

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- ECE 114 - Child Care and Development 3 Semester hour(s)
- ECE 115 - Principles of Early Childhood Education 3 Semester hour(s)
- ECE 118 - Parent-Teacher-Child-Community Relations 3 Semester hour(s)
- ECE 202 - Language Development in Young Children 3 Semester hour(s)
- ECE 207 - Mathematics for the Young Child 3 Semester hour(s)
- OR
- MAT 106 - Applied Mathematics 3 Semester hour(s) **OR HIGHER**
- ECE 228 - Child Health, Nutrition and Safety 3 Semester hour(s)
- ECE 240 - Observation and Assessment of Young Children 3 Semester hour(s)
- ECE 250 - Early Childhood Education Practicum I 3 Semester hour(s)
- ECE 275 - Curriculum Development for the Early Childhood Classroom 3 Semester hour(s)

- EDU 102 - Computer Education for Teachers 3 Semester hour(s)
- OR
- CIS 109 - Introduction to Microcomputers - Windows 3 Semester hour(s)
- EDU 210 - Diversity in Education 3 Semester hour(s)
- EDU 220 - Students with Disabilities in School 3 Semester hour(s)
- EDU 221 - Children's Literature 3 Semester hour(s)
- OR
- LAN 161 - Beginning Spanish I 4 Semester hour(s)
- PED 220 - Rhythms and Games for Children 2 Semester hour(s)

#### General Education Requirements

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- Communications (ENG 101 and COM 131 Required) 6 Semester hour(s)
- Physical Science (BIO 120 Recommended) 3 Semester hour(s)
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (PSY 103, PSY 214, and SOC 251 Required) 9 Semester hour(s)

Sem/Hrs: 18

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SVCC Requirement - Sem/Hrs: 1

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- FYE 101 - First Year Experience 1 Semester hour(s)

Total Hours Required for A.A.S. Degree: 60-61

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#### Suggested Program

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First Semester - Sem/Hrs: 16

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- BIO 120 - Environmental Health 3 Semester hour(s) (Recommended)
- ECE 114 - Child Care and Development 3 Semester hour(s)
- ECE 115 - Principles of Early Childhood Education 3 Semester hour(s)
- FYE 101 - First Year Experience 1 Semester hour(s)
- PSY 103 - Introduction to Psychology 3 Semester hour(s)
- MAT 106 - Applied Mathematics 3 Semester hour(s)
- or
- ECE 207 - Mathematics for the Young Child 3 Semester hour(s)

Second Semester - Sem/Hrs: 15

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- COM 131 - Introduction to Oral Communication 3 Semester hour(s)
- ECE 202 - Language Development in Young Children 3 Semester hour(s)
- ECE 275 - Curriculum Development for the Early Childhood Classroom 3 Semester hour(s)
- ENG 101 - Composition I 3 Semester hour(s)
- SOC 251 - Human Sexuality and Marriage 3 Semester hour(s)

Third Semester - Sem/Hrs: 14-15

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- ECE 118 - Parent-Teacher-Child-Community Relations 3 Semester hour(s)
- ECE 228 - Child Health, Nutrition and Safety 3 Semester hour(s)

- EDU 220 - Students with Disabilities in School 3 Semester hour(s)
- EDU 221 - Children's Literature 3 Semester hour(s)
- OR
- LAN 161 - Beginning Spanish I 4 Semester hour(s) Or Higher
- PED 220 - Rhythms and Games for Children 2 Semester hour(s)

Fourth Semester - Sem/Hrs: 15

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- ECE 240 - Observation and Assessment of Young Children 3 Semester hour(s)
- ECE 250 - Early Childhood Education Practicum I 3 Semester hour(s)
- EDU 102 - Computer Education for Teachers 3 Semester hour(s)
- OR
- CIS 109 - Introduction to Microcomputers - Windows 3 Semester hour(s)
- EDU 210 - Diversity in Education 3 Semester hour(s)
- PSY 214 - Child Developmental Psychology 3 Semester hour(s)

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