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## Early Childhood Education

Becoming an early childhood educator takes an equal amount of heart, knowledge, and skill. As a child care provider or preschool teacher, you have the responsibility for educating and nurturing young children from birth to age eight in a variety of early childhood settings. At the College of Western Idaho you will have the opportunity to develop your teaching skills right on campus in our own college Preschool Laboratory. Additional practical experience in community early childhood facilities expands career opportunities during college and after graduation.

### Video

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CWI Early Childhood Ed Vignette [1]

### Mission

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The program curriculum covers a range of topics related to child development and teaching practice. Not only will you learn how to teach young children but you will also learn to how to create safe and healthy learning environments, effectively partner with parents in their child's care, and develop professional policies to guide center and classroom procedures.

### Why This Program

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Students can start the program fall, spring or summer semester. Classes are offered during the day and evening as well as online. Students can take classes on a part-time or full-time schedule. This program involves classroom instruction as well as practical experience in our Preschool Laboratory or in early childhood facilities throughout the Treasure Valley. Students may use their own early childhood classroom to complete some practicums with children if the program meets certain requirements.

### Additional Opportunities

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### Child Development Associate (CDA) credential

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[2]The Early Childhood Education program provides the courses to meet the educational component of the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential of the Council for Professional Recognition. The program provides courses on a regular basis to meet the requirements for the Preschool, Infant/Toddler, and Family Child Care CDA. The program will upon special request provide the coursework for the Home Visitor CDA.

These courses meet the CDA 120 hours of the education:

- ECED 100 Foundations of Early Childhood Education, 3 credits
- ECED 101 Child Development and Guidance, 3 credits
- ECED 105 Teaching Young Children I, 4 credits

Supervision and support to complete the Professional Portfolio and Family Questionnaires is provided by a faculty advisor. Students who are awarded a CDA with college coursework for the educational component and decide to continue in the Early Childhood Education program may be eligible to challenge ECED 106 Teaching Young Children II.

If you are interested in learning more about the CDA coursework at CWI, contact Program Chair, Bonnie Noonan, [bonnienuonan@cwidaho.cc](mailto:bonnienuonan@cwidaho.cc) [3] or 208.562.3108. Please do not contact the One Stop about the CDA because it is not a CWI degree but a national credential from the Council for Professional Recognition.

To learn more about the types of CDA credentials and steps to achieving the credential, visit [www.cdacouncil.org](http://www.cdacouncil.org) [2].

## Additional Advising Information

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Prospective and new Early Childhood Education majors should contact Program Chair, Bonnie Noonan, [bonnienuonan@cwidaho.cc](mailto:bonnienuonan@cwidaho.cc) [3] or **208.562.3108**, to schedule a meeting. At the meeting students will learn about the program requirements, discuss career goals, transfer opportunities, and begin the advising process. ECED 100, Foundations of Early Childhood Education, and Practicum courses require instructor permission for registration and an initial meeting with the Program Chair.

### **Additional requirements upon enrollment include:**

- Proof of Criminal History Background check with fingerprinting
- Current Pediatric CPR and First Aid training certificate
- Proof of negative Tuberculosis test
- High school graduate or hold a GED

The Program Chair will provide information to assist students in meeting the requirements.

## Career Information

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Graduates work in child care centers, preschools, and Head Start programs as both assistant and lead teachers. Additionally, graduates begin their own business by starting family child care homes or child care centers and preschools. Career opportunities outside of teaching include becoming family educators and advocates, child life assistants, public school assistant teachers, and developmental techs in developmental disabilities agencies.

Work environments are busy and high energy with an emphasis on interaction between children and adults. The personal fulfillment of helping young children and their families is a tremendous benefit to professionals in this field.

## Slideshow Image

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## Announcements

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**We provide preschool classes to the children of CWI students, employees and the community!**

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### **2016-2017 Academic Year Preschool Sessions**

- Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday morning 9:30am-11:45am
- Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday afternoon 1:00pm-3:15pm
- The tuition for each session is \$660 per year (installment plans available)
- Children are enrolled for the entire academic year (two semesters) in the session.
- Children must be 3 years of age by September 1st

Preschool Information [4]

## Professions

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- Child Care Center Teacher or Director [5]
- Preschool Teacher [6]
- Head Start Program Assistant or Lead Teacher [7]
- Family Child Care Owner [8]

## Skills, Traits, and Prep Classes

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- A desire to serve others [9]
- Enjoyment and appreciation of young children [10]
- Ability to work collaboratively with other adults [11]
- Patience, energy and enthusiasm [12]
- Creativity and flexibility [13]
- Strong written and verbal communication skills [14]
- Desire to learn and reflect on own personal growth [15]

## What You Will Learn to Do

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- Understand the growth and developmental stages of young children [16]
- Develop and deliver age appropriate curriculum in literacy, math, science, social studies, art and music [17]
- Provide quality care and education for young children from birth to age eight [18]
- Set up and maintain a healthy, safe learning environment [19]
- Incorporate good nutrition into meals, snacks and food experiences [20]
- Guide and foster positive social and emotional development of children in groups [21]
- Partner with parents in their child's education [22]
- Learn to include children with diverse backgrounds as well as special needs into classrooms [23]
- Supervise and administer all aspects of an early childhood program [24]
- Become a professional and advocate for young children and their families [25]

## Testimonial

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What inspires me most is watching the students transform a learning activity into an exciting adventure for the children.

*Bonnie Noonan, Program Chair*

## Tag Dump

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Early Childhood Education Child Care Center Teacher or Director Preschool Teacher Head Start Program Assistant or Lead Teacher Family Child Care Owner A desire to serve others Enjoyment and appreciation of young children Ability to work collaboratively with other adults Patience, energy and enthusiasm Creativity and flexibility Strong written and verbal communication skills Desire to learn and reflect on own personal growth Understand the growth and developmental stages of young children Develop and deliver age appropriate curriculum in literacy, math, science, social studies, art and music Provide quality care and education for young children from birth to age eight Set up and maintain a healthy, safe learning environment Incorporate good nutrition into meals, snacks and food experiences Guide and foster positive social and emotional development of children in groups Partner with parents in their child's education Learn to include children with diverse backgrounds as well as special needs into classrooms Supervise and administer all aspects of an early childhood program Become a professional and advocate for young children and their families

## Resources

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Early Childhood Education Book & Tool List [26]

## Department

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Health and Human Services

## Locations

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Nampa Campus Multipurpose Building

## Program Department Chair / Contact

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Bonnie Noonan

## Instructors

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Sherri Lauer Mary Griffin

## Degree

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Associates of Applied Science in Early Childhood Education Advanced Technical Certificate in Early Childhood Education Intermediate Technical Certificate in Early Childhood Education Basic Technical Certificate in Early Childhood Education

## GE - Short URL

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[ge/early-child-ed](#)

## Next Step Button

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[Apply Now \[27\]](#)

## Flyer Link

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[http://cwidaho.cc/sites/default/files/pdf\\_using\\_mpdf/CWI\\_Early%20Childhood%20Edu...](http://cwidaho.cc/sites/default/files/pdf_using_mpdf/CWI_Early%20Childhood%20Edu...) [28]

## Request More Information - Emails

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[onestop@cwidaho.cc](mailto:onestop@cwidaho.cc), [pte@cwidaho.cc](mailto:pte@cwidaho.cc)

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**Source URL:** <http://cwidaho.cc/program/early-childhood-education>

### Links

- [1] <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7gqJbOr3ocl>
- [2] <http://www.cdacouncil.org/>
- [3] <mailto:bonnienoonan@cwidaho.cc>
- [4] <http://cwidaho.cc/current-students/preschool-services>
- [5] <http://cwidaho.cc/program-careers/child-care-center-teacher-or-director>
- [6] <http://cwidaho.cc/program-careers/preschool-teacher>
- [7] <http://cwidaho.cc/program-careers/head-start-program-assistant-or-lead-teacher>
- [8] <http://cwidaho.cc/program-careers/family-child-care-owner>
- [9] <http://cwidaho.cc/program-skills-traits-prep-classes/desire-serve-others>
- [10] <http://cwidaho.cc/program-skills-traits-prep-classes/enjoyment-and-appreciation-young-children>
- [11] <http://cwidaho.cc/program-skills-traits-prep-classes/ability-work-collaboratively-other-adults>
- [12] <http://cwidaho.cc/program-skills-traits-prep-classes/patience-energy-and-enthusiasm>
- [13] <http://cwidaho.cc/program-skills-traits-prep-classes/creativity-and-flexibility>
- [14] <http://cwidaho.cc/program-skills-traits-prep-classes/strong-written-and-verbal-communication-skills>
- [15] <http://cwidaho.cc/program-skills-traits-prep-classes/desire-learn-and-reflect-own-personal-growth>
- [16] <http://cwidaho.cc/program-learn-do/understand-growth-and-developmental-stages-young-children>
- [17] <http://cwidaho.cc/program-learn-do/develop-and-deliver-age-appropriate-curriculum-literacy-math-science-social-studies>
- [18] <http://cwidaho.cc/program-learn-do/provide-quality-care-and-education-young-children-birth-age-eight>
- [19] <http://cwidaho.cc/program-learn-do/set-and-maintain-healthy-safe-learning-environment>
- [20] <http://cwidaho.cc/program-learn-do/incorporate-good-nutrition-meals-snacks-and-food-experiences>
- [21] <http://cwidaho.cc/program-learn-do/guide-and-foster-positive-social-and-emotional-development-children-groups>
- [22] <http://cwidaho.cc/program-learn-do/partner-parents-their-childrens-education>
- [23] <http://cwidaho.cc/program-learn-do/learn-include-children-diverse-backgrounds-well-special-needs-classrooms>
- [24] <http://cwidaho.cc/program-learn-do/supervise-and-administer-all-aspects-early-childhood-program>
- [25] <http://cwidaho.cc/program-learn-do/become-professional-and-advocate-young-children-and-their-families>

[26] [http://cwidaho.cc/sites/default/files/imce/PDF/student-clubs/13\\_14\\_book\\_and\\_tool\\_list.pdf](http://cwidaho.cc/sites/default/files/imce/PDF/student-clubs/13_14_book_and_tool_list.pdf)

[27] <http://cwidaho.cc/future-students/associate-degrees-or-technical-certificates>

[28] [http://cwidaho.cc/sites/default/files/pdf\\_using\\_mpdf/CWI\\_Early%20Childhood%20Education%20.pdf](http://cwidaho.cc/sites/default/files/pdf_using_mpdf/CWI_Early%20Childhood%20Education%20.pdf)