

**STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES**  
**Proposal for a Uniform Articulation Agreement Between the North Carolina Independent  
Colleges and Universities and the North Carolina Community College System  
Associate in Applied Science in Early Childhood Education**

**Request:** The State Board of Community Colleges is requested to approve the proposal for a Uniform Articulation Agreement between the North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities and the North Carolina Community College System Associate in Applied Science in Early Childhood Education, which is an agreement jointly created by the North Carolina Community College System and the North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities.

**Strategic Plan Reference:**

Goal 2: Enrollment Objectives and Strategies

- Objective 2.3. Streamline and strengthen the pathways to community colleges and careers
  - o Strategy 2.3.1: Intentionally develop internal and external educational partnerships to improve student workforce pipelines and simplify education and training pathways.

**Background:** For many years, the North Carolina Community College System and representatives from the North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities have been working together to increase opportunities for transfer students. The Uniform Articulation Agreement in Associate in Applied Science in Early Childhood Education is a product of this collaborative work which is focused on increasing seamless transfer opportunities for careers in the field of early childhood education.

**Rationale:** The Uniform Articulation Agreement in Early Childhood Education will promote educational advancement opportunities for early childhood education (ECE) students matriculating from the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) to the signatory institutions of the North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities (NCICU) in order to complete a Bachelor's Degree in Birth-Kindergarten (BK) teaching licensure program or a Bachelor's Degree in a related ECE non-licensure program. All 58 community colleges are approved to offer the Associate in Applied Science in Early Childhood Education program and are included as participating institutions included in this agreement.

**Contact(s):**

Dr. Lisa Eads  
Associate Vice President of Programs

**UNIFORM ARTICULATION AGREEMENT**

**BETWEEN**

**NORTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT COLLEGES**

**AND UNIVERSITIES SIGNATORY INSTITUTIONS**

**BACCALAUREATE OF BIRTH-KINDERGARTEN AND**

**EARLY CHILDHOOD RELATED PROGRAMS**

**AND**

**NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM**

**APPLIED ASSOCIATE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

**Effective: Fall 2023**

Approved by the Board of Directors of the  
North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities and  
the State Board of Community Colleges

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## PURPOSE AND RATIONALE

This document presents a uniform, statewide academic progression agreement that will promote educational advancement opportunities for early childhood education (ECE) students matriculating from the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) to the signatory institutions of the North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities (NCICU) in order to complete a Bachelor's Degree in Birth-Kindergarten (BK) teaching licensure program or a Bachelor's Degree in a related ECE non-licensure program.

This articulation agreement describes a progression degree plan that includes required general education for all BK education degree plans (licensure and non-licensure) and pre-major courses that are acceptable to all signatory ECE to BK programs (licensure and non-licensure) options. **Students who follow the progression degree plan will have 60 hours applied to all of ECE to BK programs, both licensure and non-licensure.** ECE students following the plan are guaranteed not to take additional, and often duplicative, courses.

**This agreement does not guarantee student acceptance into any bachelor program at signatory NCICU institutions. ECE students must meet applicable admissions criteria and policies designated by, and earn admission into, the institution of their choice.** These criteria and admissions requirements may include (but are not limited to) minimum GPA and Praxis scores and their associated timelines, as published by each institution's bachelor's degree in BK and ECE related programs (both licensure and non-licensure options).

Advisors at NCCCS and signatory NCICU institutions must ensure students understand the higher requirements and additional steps required for admission to a licensure track program, including passing and obtaining competitive scores on the Praxis exam, as well as the increased financial cost associated with taking the exam and other expenses related to earning licensure in the state of North Carolina (e.g., the edTPA teacher portfolio assessment, full-time and unpaid semester long internship experiences in classroom). However, students in these programs (and their advisors) should also comprehend how non-licensure prospective degrees will allow them alternative options to work with young children without a teaching license. The non-licensure track provides an off-ramp/alternative pathway to earning a bachelor's degree in this area, yet still retain career options and mobility for working with young children.

The intention behind this agreement is reducing barriers that currently exist for applied associate degree early childhood educators who wish to earn baccalaureate degrees, and creating a more seamless and rational--and guaranteed--transfer process for community college early childhood education students. A codified, coordinated approach should increase ECE to BK student retention and persistence, and reduce time-to-degree completion. The benefit to the state of NC likely will include an increase in the number of four-year degreed teachers with a BK licensure, a more educated and diverse early childhood workforce, and (due to the higher pay for these degrees) increased economic mobility for the teachers.

## **POLICIES**

The Early Childhood Education Articulation Agreement (ECAA) is made between the State Board of North Carolina Community College System and NCICU. It applies to all 58 North Carolina community colleges offering the Associate in Applied Science degree in ECE programs and to those signatory, participating institutions of NCICU offering BK Teaching Licensure and related ECE Non- Licensure Baccalaureate Degree Programs (see Appendix A for the list of participating institutions).

The ECAA licensure and non-licensure options apply to all community college students who enter into Associate in Applied Science degree in ECE programs after the effective date of this agreement and who successfully complete an Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree in ECE prior to transfer.

### **A. ECE to BK Independent Transfer Committee (ECEBKITC)**

Authority to interpret and make changes to the ECAA rests with the ECE to BK Independent Transfer Committee (ECEBKITC). The ECEBKITC is an ad-hoc eight-member co-chaired committee appointed by the Chief Academic Officer (CAO) of the NCCCS and the President of NCICU. Questions concerning the AAS degree in ECE should be directed to the appropriate system's Chief Academic Officer with an explanation of the institutional policy that may (appear to) conflict with this Uniform Articulation Transfer Agreement. The CAO will forward unresolved questions to the ECEBKITC for resolution. Each entity will appoint one ex-officio non-voting member of the ECEBKITC. For further details, see Appendices B and C.

### **B. Admission Policy**

Completion of the AAS ECE does not guarantee admission to one of the signatory NCICU institution that offers the BK licensure program or one of the signatory NCICU institutions that offers a non-licensure related ECE degree. AAS ECE students desiring admission to a signatory institution should review and understand the following conditions:

- Admission is not assured to a specific campus or specific program or major.
- Students must have graduated from a North Carolina community college with an AAS ECE degree.
- Students must meet all requirements of the ECAA.
- Students must meet minimum GPA and/or Praxis score admission requirements for the desired four-year institution's bachelor's degree in BK and ECE-related degrees (licensure and non-licensure options). See specific signatory NCICU institution website for information on admission requirements and associated timelines, which vary by institution and program.
- Students must have an overall GPA of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale, as calculated by the college from which they graduated, and a grade of "C" or better in all ECAA courses.
- Students must be academically eligible for readmission to the last institution attended.
- Students must meet judicial requirements of the institution to which they apply.
- Students must meet all application requirements at the receiving institution, including the submission of all required documentation by stated deadlines.

### **C. Transfer Credit Appeal**

AAS ECE students who perceive that the terms of the ECAA have not been honored may follow the Transfer Credit Appeal Procedure, as outlined below in “Regulations and Procedures, Section F.” Each signatory institution will provide a link to the Transfer Credit Appeal Procedure on its website.

## **REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES**

### **A. Transfer of Credits**

The ECAA establishes the procedures governing the transfer of credits for students who transfer from a North Carolina Community College to a signatory NCICU institution. The ECAA does not address admission to a specific institution or to a specific major within an institution.

#### **1. Eligibility**

To be eligible for the transfer of credits under the ECAA, the student must graduate from the community college with an AAS ECE degree and have an overall Grade Point Average (GPA) of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale and a grade of "C" or better in all ECAA courses. Students who do not complete the degree are eligible to transfer credits on a course-by-course basis as determined by the receiving institution.

#### **2. Definition of General Education Courses and Technical Courses**

The AAS ECE degree program in the NCCCS requires a total of sixty-four to seventy-six semester hours credit for graduation (see Appendix C), sixty of which are transferable to any signatory NCICU institution (see Appendix A). The overall total is comprised of both lower-division general education and ECE courses. This curriculum reflects the distribution of discipline areas commonly included in institution-wide, lower-division general education requirements for the baccalaureate degree.

The AAS ECE degree program includes general education requirements that represent the fundamental foundation for success, with studies in the areas of English composition, communications, humanities and fine arts, natural sciences and mathematics, and social and behavioral sciences. Within these discipline areas, community colleges must include opportunities for the achievement of competence in reading, writing, oral communication, fundamental mathematical skills, and basic computer use. Additionally, the AAS ECE degree program includes technical courses in the field of ECE which include study in the areas of child development for both typical and atypical development, child guidance, health, safety and nutrition, creative activities, language and literacy, working with children and diverse families, and field experiences/practicums. Students must meet the receiving institution's foreign language and/or health and physical education requirements, if applicable, prior to or after transfer to the four-year institution.

The AAS ECE degree program is structured to include three components:

- **Universal General Education Transfer Component** comprises a minimum of 15 semester hours of credit, including at least one course from each of the following areas: humanities/fine arts, social/behavioral sciences, and natural sciences/mathematics. AAS Degree programs must contain a minimum of 6 semester hours of communications. Diploma programs must contain a minimum of 6 semester hours of general education; 3 semester hours must be in communications. All Universal General Education Transfer Component courses will transfer as equivalency credit.
- **Technical Core/Major Hours** consists of 49 semester hours, 35 of which are in the technical core, and
- **Other Major Hours**, which includes additional ECE courses or additional general education courses and brings the total number of hours in the AAS degree to 64-76 hours.

To ensure maximum transferability of credits, students should select additional general education and ECE courses based on the courses listed in the ECAA (see Appendix B).

Each receiving institution will identify community college course equivalencies and publicize an equivalency course crosswalk to ensure transfer of credit uniformity and transparency.

The specific number and distribution of courses used to fulfill the requirement in each of these areas will be identified by each community college as meeting its own general education requirements. The Universal General Education Transfer Component and Other Required General Education courses will be drawn from those courses designated in the North Carolina Community College *Combined Course Library* as being transferable general education. This practice will preserve the autonomy of each community college to develop its own general education program, including those aspects that make its program unique.

### 3. Transfer of AAS ECE Degree Program

- a. The ECAA enables North Carolina community college graduates of AAS ECE degree programs who are admitted to signatory NCICU institutions to transfer with junior status.
- b. Institutions cannot place requirements on students transferring under the ECAA that are not required of their native students.
- c. Due to degree requirements at some signatory institutions, additional courses at the signatory institution may be required beyond the general education courses taken at the community college.
- d. Community college graduates of the AAS ECE degree programs, who have earned 60 semester hours in approved transfer courses with a grade of "C" or better and an overall GPA of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale, will receive at least 60 semester hours of academic credit upon admission to a signatory institution.

- e. Requirements for secondary admission to the school of education at each receiving institution may include the following: minimum Praxis scores, GPA, and other published admission requirements for the associated baccalaureate program, available on their degree website.
- f. All courses approved for transfer in the ECAA are designated as fulfilling general education or pre-major/elective requirements (see Appendix B).
- g. ECAA courses taken beyond the 60 SHC of credit in which the student received less than a "C" will not negate the provisions of the ECAA.

#### **4. Certification of Universal General Education Transfer Component Courses, AAS ECE Degree Completion**

Certification of completion of the AAS ECE degree is the responsibility of the community college at which the program is completed. Transcript identification of Universal General Education Transfer Component courses is also the responsibility of the community college at which the courses are completed.

#### **5. Four-Year Degree Plan for Community College AAS ECE Transfer Students**

Beyond the Universal General Education Transfer Component courses, a program of study leading to the associate degree contains courses related to a student's major or program emphasis. Each signatory NCICU institution will develop, publish, and maintain four-year degree plans identifying community college courses that provide pathways leading to AAS ECE degree completion, admission into the major, and baccalaureate completion. Students who complete the AAS ECE degree plan track published by a signatory NCICU institution, and who are accepted into that institution and into that major within four years of initial enrollment at the community college, will continue into that major at the signatory NCICU institution with all courses fulfilling lower division general education and other degree requirements.

#### **6. Transfer of courses not originated at North Carolina community colleges**

Transfer courses that do not originate at a North Carolina community college or signatory NCICU institution may be used under the ECAA with the following stipulations:

- a. Courses must be completed at a regionally accredited (e.g., SACSCOC) institution of higher education;
- b. Courses must meet general education requirements as listed in Appendix B; and
- c. Courses may total no more than 14 semester hours of general education course credit.
- d. For courses not originating at a NC community college, if the courses are used to complete the AAS, the courses will transfer as part of the degree.



## **7. Transfer of Advanced Placement (AP) Course Credit**

Advanced Placement (AP) course credits, awarded for a score of three or higher, are acceptable as part of a student's successfully completed AAS ECE degree under the ECAA.

### **B. Impact of the ECAA on other Articulation Agreements**

The ECAA takes precedence over bilateral articulation agreements established between signatory NCICU institutions and the NCCCS but does not necessarily preclude such agreements. Institution-to-institution articulation agreements that fall within the parameters of the ECAA and enhance transferability of students from community colleges to senior institutions are encouraged. Institutional articulation agreements conflicting with the ECAA are not permitted.

### **C. Students enrolled prior to Fall 2018**

Students who entered or completed an AAS program in ECE at a North Carolina Community College prior to Fall 2018 are subject to the conditions in place at the individual institutions at the time of their original enrollment or degree completion.

### **D. ECE to BK Independent Transfer Committee Procedures**

Articulation between the NCCCS and signatory NCICU institutions is a dynamic process. To ensure the currency of the ECE to BK Licensure and Non-Licensure articulation agreement, occasional modifications to that agreement may be necessary. These modifications may include the addition, deletion, and/or revision of courses on the transfer list as listed in the degree plan (see Appendix B).

The ECEBKITC will receive requests for modification only upon the recommendation of the Chief Academic Officer (CAO) of the NCCCS or a signatory NCICU institution. Additions, deletions, and modifications may be subject to faculty review, under the direction of the ECEBKITC. Because the modification process involves faculty and administrative review, this process may require up to 12 months for final action. Decisions made by the ECEBKITC will be consistent with all pertinent accreditation and licensure standards.

### **1. Addition of Courses to the Transfer List in the Block Degree Plan**

All additions to the ECAA transfer list must be drawn from the ECAA in effect at the time that the request for the addition is made. Such additions may be recommended by a participating institution through the following process:

- a. The director of a BK or related ECE at any one of the participating colleges or universities make a written request for inclusion of a specific course as a general education, a pre-major, or elective to the CAO of their college or university. That CAO submits a written request for inclusion on the transfer list to the NCICU President. The President will consult with the CAO of the NCCCS Office.
- b. The CAOs, or their designees at NCICU and at NCCCS, will then seek feedback and endorsement about whether to pursue the change from their respective campuses. A two-thirds favorable response is required for the change to be pursued.
- c. The CAO of either system may submit the request for action to the ECEBKITC a minimum of thirty days prior to the next ECEBKITC meeting.
- d. The ECEBKITC reviews the request.
- e. The NCCCS Office and NCICU will distribute notification of action to all the participating colleges or universities in their system.

### **2. Deletion of a Course from the Transfer List**

The director of a BK or ECE program at any one of the participating colleges or universities may request that a course be removed from the ECE to BK articulation agreement licensure and non-licensure transfer list in the Block Degree Plan by following similar procedures as outlined in items 1-5 in the *Addition of Courses to the Transfer List*.

### **3. Change in the Designation of a Course**

The director of a BK or related ECE program at any one of the participating colleges or universities may request a change in the designation of a course in the ECAA (i.e., Elective to General Education or Pre-Major) by sending the request and rationale to the CAOs of the two systems. Either of the system CAOs may submit the request to the ECEBKITC for action.

## **E. ECE to BK Articulation Agreement Transfer Credit Appeal Procedures**

If a student from a NCCCS college believes the terms of the ECAA have not been honored by a signatory NCICU institution to which the student has been admitted, the student may invoke the following ECAA Transfer Credit Appeal Procedure:

#### **Step #1:**

- By the last day of classes of the first semester for which admission is offered, the student must submit an ECAA Transfer Credit Appeal Form, along with any supporting documentation, to the Director of Admission (or equivalent position, regardless of specific name, at the signatory institution) at the signatory NCICU campus to which the student has been admitted. Students first enrolling at the senior institution in a summer session must submit their appeal by the end of the subsequent fall semester.

- The student must specify on the appeal form the specific ECAA language that is in contention. Appeals lacking this information will not be considered.
- The Director of Admissions will review the appeal and respond in writing (email or letter) to the student within 15 business days.

**Step #2:**

- If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the Director of Admission, they may appeal on the same form to the Chief Academic Officer (CAO) of the signatory institution within 15 days of written notice of the Director's decision.
- The CAO will review the appeal and respond in writing (email or letter) to the student within 15 business days of receiving the student's appeal.

**Step #3**

- If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the CAO, they may appeal to the ECEBKITC subcommittee, composed of the Co-chairs, a representative from the signatory NCICU institutions, and a representative from the NCCCS.
- The student must submit the appeal to the subcommittee within 15 days of the receipt of the CAO's decision. The appeal to the ECEBKITC subcommittee should be sent to:

NCICU Early Childhood Education Birth to Kindergarten  
Transfer Committee Member ECAA Appeal  
530 North Blount Street  
Raleigh, NC 27604

If a consensus is reached by the subcommittee, the student will be notified within 15 business days. If a consensus resolution is not reached, the appeal will be forwarded by the subcommittee to the full ECEBKITC within 10 business days. The ECEBKITC will review the appeal and notify the student of the final decision within 10 business days of receiving the appeal.

## **Appendix A**

### **Participating Programs (as of Academic Year 2023-2024)**

**NCCCS Associate in Applied Science in Early Childhood Education (A55220):**

All 58 NCCCS Community Colleges

**Signatory NCICU ECE to Bachelor in Birth-Kindergarten Teaching licensure option:**

**NCICU Bachelor in Early Childhood Non-teaching licensure option, with corresponding Bachelor Degree title:**

## Appendix B

### **Block Degree Plan Transfer Course List (60 Total credit hours applied to Bachelor's Degree Program)**

#### **General Education**

##### **BLOCK 1 (15 course credit hours):**

Consists of general education courses that are taken as part of all North Carolina AAS early education programs. The courses are:

<b>Course Category</b>	<b>Transferable courses</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>
<b>Communication</b>	COM 231 and ENG 111	6
<b>Humanities/Fine Arts</b>	ART 111, 114, 115 MUS 110, 112 PHI 215, 240	3
<b>Math</b>	MAT 143	3
<b>Social/Behavioral</b>	PSY 150	3

##### **BLOCK 2 (14 course credit hours):**

Consists of additional **university general education** requirements that are not part of AAS degree but are required to earn a **Bachelor's Degree in Birth-Kindergarten (B-K) teaching licensure program and non-teaching licensure Early Childhood related bachelor's degree programs.**

<b>Course Category</b>	<b>Transferable courses</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>
<b>English Composition</b>	ENG 112 or ENG 114	3
<b>Social/Behavioral</b>	ECO 251, 252 HIS 111, 112, 131, 132 POL 120, SOC 210	3
<b>Biological Science</b>	BIO 110 or 111	4
<b>Natural Science</b>	AST 111 and 111A, 151 and 151A CHM 151, GEL 111, PHY 110 and 110 A	4

**29 Total Hours of General Education**

**Early Childhood Competencies**

**BLOCK 3 (31 course credit hours) for Birth-Kindergarten Licensure Transfer:**

Consists of AAS Early Education Major Hours required as part of the AAS degree that will be applied to the Bachelor in **Birth-Kindergarten Teaching Licensure track** option. These courses are:

Course Category	Transferable courses	Credit Hours
Child, Family and Community/ Diverse Worlds	EDU 131	3
Child Development 1 & 2	EDU 144 & 145 or PSY 244 & 245	6
Guiding Children’s Behavior/Child as Teacher/Parent Child Interaction	EDU 146	3
Health, Safety and Nutrition	EDU 153	3
Foundations of American Education	EDU 216	3
Children with Exceptionalities	EDU 221	3
Infant and Toddler Curriculum	EDU 234	3
Teacher Licensure Preparation	EDU 250 or if Praxis requirements have been met by SAT/ACT, any other EDU course to get to 60 transferable hours	3
Capstone Practicum	EDU 284	4

**60 Total hours (Block 1+ 2+ 3= 60 hrs)**

**OR**

**BLOCK 4 (31 course credit hours): Early Education Non-Teaching Licensure Transfer:**

Consists of other AAS Early Education Major Hours that will be applied to related bachelor’s in early education **Non-teaching licensure transfer** option. Students would **not complete BLOCK 3** but instead will complete Block 4 with BLOCK 1, 2. These courses are:

Course Category	Transferable courses	Credits
Child, Family and Community/ Diverse Worlds	EDU 131	3
Child Development 1 & 2	EDU 144 & 145 or PSY 244 & 245	6
Guiding Children’s Behavior/Child as Teacher/Parent Child Interaction	EDU 146	3
Health, Safety and Nutrition	EDU 153	3
Children with Exceptionalities	EDU 221	3
Infant and Toddler Curriculum	EDU 234	3
Early Childhood Administration 1	EDU 261	3
Early Childhood Administration 2	EDU 262	3
Capstone Practicum	EDU 284	4

**60 Total Hours (Block 1+ 2+ 4= 60 hrs.)**

**BLOCK 5: Remaining hours to get to 120 total degree credit hours or specified total credit hours by NCICU signatory institution.**

Consists of university-based courses that are **taken at the signatory NCICU institution**, as a part of the **B-K bachelor's degree teaching licensure** program or for **Transfer/Non-Licensure** early education related bachelor program, see Appendix A for participating schools for both programs.

## Appendix C

<b>Associate in Applied Science in Early Childhood Education Curriculum Standard</b>			
<b>Career Cluster:</b> Education and Training**			
<b>Cluster Description:</b> Planning, managing, and providing education and training services, and related learning support services.			
<b>Pathway:</b> Teaching/Training		<b>Effective Term:</b> Fall 2018 (2018*03)	
<b>Program Majors Under Pathway</b>			
<b>Program Major / Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code</b>		<b>Credential Level(s) Offered</b>	<b>Program Major Code</b>
Early Childhood Education	CIP Code 13.1210	AAS/Diploma/Certificate	A55220
<p><b>Curriculum Description</b>            The Early Childhood Education curriculum prepares individuals to work with children from birth through eight in diverse learning environments. Students will combine learned theories with practice in actual settings with young children under the supervision of qualified teachers.</p> <p>Coursework includes child growth and development; physical/nutritional needs of children; care and guidance of children; and communication skills with families and children. Students will foster the cognitive/language, physical/motor, social/emotional, and creative development of young children.</p> <p>Graduates are prepared to plan and implement developmentally appropriate programs in early childhood settings. Employment opportunities include child development and childcare programs, preschools, public and private schools, recreational centers, Head Start Programs, and school-age programs.</p>			
<p><i>Program Major Description: The following 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph is used in conjunction with the first three paragraphs of the pathway description above for documentation used to identify the <b>Program Major</b>:</i></p> <p><b>Early Childhood Education:</b> A program that prepares individuals to promote child development and learning, work with diverse families and children, observe, document, and assess to support young children and families, use content knowledge to build meaningful curriculum, and use developmentally effective approaches in collaboration with other early childhood professionals. Potential coursework includes instruction in all areas of child development such as emotional/social/health/physical/language/communication, approaches to play and learning, working with diverse families, and related observations/student teaching experiences.</p> <p><i>*Within the degree program, the institution shall include opportunities for the achievement of competence in reading, writing, oral communication, fundamental mathematical skills, and basic use of computers.</i></p>			

**I. General Education Academic Core** *Curriculum Requirements for associate degree, diploma, and certificate programs in accordance with 1D SBCCC 400.97(3): Degree programs must contain a minimum of 15 semester hours including at least one course from each of the following areas: humanities/fine arts, social/behavioral sciences, and natural sciences/mathematics. Degree programs must contain a minimum of 6 semester hours of communications. Diploma programs must contain a minimum of 6 semester hours of general education; 3 semester hours must be in communications. General education is optional in certificate programs.*



**Teaching/Training: Early Childhood Education**

<b>Recommended General Education Academic Core</b>	<b>AAS</b>	<b>Diploma</b>	<b>Certificate</b>
<b>Minimum General Education Hours Required:</b>	<b>15 SHC</b>	<b>6 SHC</b>	<b>0 SHC</b>
<p>Courses listed below are recommended general education courses for this curriculum standard. Colleges may choose to include additional or alternative gen education courses to meet local curriculum needs.</p> <p><b>Communication:</b>            COM 231 Public Speaking <b>U</b> 3 SHC            ENG 111 Writing and Inquiry <b>U</b> 3 SHC</p> <p><b>Humanities/Fine Arts:</b>            ART 111 Art Appreciation <b>U</b> 3 SHC            ART 114 Art History Survey I <b>U</b> 3 SHC            ART 115 Art History Survey II <b>U</b> 3 SHC            MUS 110 Music Appreciation <b>U</b> 3 SHC            MUS 112 Introduction to Jazz <b>U</b> 3 SHC            PHI 215 Philosophical Issues <b>U</b> 3 SHC            PHI 240 Introduction to Ethics <b>U</b> 3 SHC</p> <p><b>Social /Behavioral Sciences:</b>            PSY 150 General Psychology <b>U</b> 3 SHC</p> <p><b>Natural Sciences/Mathematics:</b>            MAT 143 Quantitative Literacy <b>U</b> 3 SHC</p> <p><b>U</b> indicates a Universal General Education Transfer Component (UGETC) course included in the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement. UGETC courses are guaranteed to transfer to any of the signatory NCICU institutions as equivalent credit within defined distribution limits.</p> <p><b>Additional General Education for Transfer Specialty Areas</b> 14 SHC            (Block 2 of Articulation Agreement)</p> <p><b>English Composition (Select 1)</b>            ENG 112 Writing/Research in the Disc <b>U</b> 3 SHC            ENG 114 Prof Research &amp; Reporting 3 SHC</p> <p><b>Social/Behavioral Science (Select 1)</b>            ECO 251 Prin of Microeconomics <b>U</b> 3 SHC            ECO 252 Prin of Macroeconomics <b>U</b> 3 SHC            HIS 111 World Civilizations I <b>U</b> 3 SHC            HIS 112 World Civilizations II <b>U</b> 3 SHC            HIS 131 American History I <b>U</b> 3 SHC            HIS 132 American History II <b>U</b> 3 SHC            POL 120 American Government <b>U</b> 3 SHC            SOC 210 Introduction to Sociology <b>U</b> 3 SHC</p> <p><b>Biological Science (Select 1)</b>            BIO 110 Principles of Biology <b>U</b> 4 SHC            BIO 111 General Biology I <b>U</b> 4 SHC</p>	<b>6 SHC</b>	<b>3-6 SHC</b>	<b>Optional</b>
	<b>3 SHC</b>	<b>0-3 SHC</b>	<b>Optional</b>
	<b>3 SHC</b>	<b>0-3 SHC</b>	<b>Optional</b>
	<b>3 SHC</b>	<b>0-3 SHC</b>	<b>Optional</b>
	<b>3 SHC</b>	<b>0-3 SHC</b>	<b>Optional</b>

<p><b>Natural Science (Select 1)</b></p> <p>AST 111 Descriptive Astronomy &amp; Lab (AST 111A) U 4 SHC</p> <p>AST 151 General Astronomy &amp; Lab (AST 151A) U 4 SHC</p> <p>CHM 151 General Chemistry I U 4 SHC</p> <p>GEL 111 Introductory Geology U 4 SHC</p> <p>PHY 110 Conceptual Physics &amp; Lab (PHY 110A) 4 SHC</p> <p><i>Refer to Blocks 1 and 2 of the Block Degree Plan for more information about required General Education in the Early Childhood Education Statewide Articulation Agreement.</i></p>			
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**II. Major Hours.** AAS, diploma, and certificate programs must include courses which offer specific job knowledge and skills. Work-based learning may be included in associate in applied science degrees up to a maximum of 8 semester hours of credit; in diploma programs up to a maximum of 4 semester hours of credit; and in certificate programs up to a maximum of 2 semester hours of credit. Below is a description of each section under Major Hours.

- A. Technical Core.** The technical core is comprised of specific courses which are required for all Program Majors under this Curriculum Standard. A diploma program offered under an approved AAS program standard or a certificate which is the highest credential level awarded under an approved AAS program standard must include a minimum of 12 semester hours credit derived from the curriculum core courses or core subject area of the AAS program.
- B. Program Major(s).** The Program Major must include a minimum of 12 semester hour credits from required subjects and/or courses. The Program Major is in addition to the technical core.
- C. Other Major Hours.** Other major hours must be selected from prefixes listed on the curriculum standard. A maximum of 9 semester hours of credit may be selected from each prefix listed, with the exception of prefixes listed in the core.

<b>Teaching/Training: Early Childhood Education</b>	<b>AAS</b>	<b>Diploma</b>	<b>Certificate</b>
<b>Minimum Major Hours Required:</b>	<b>49 SHC</b>	<b>30 SHC</b>	<b>12 SHC</b>
<p><b>A. TECHNICAL CORE</b></p> <p><i>Courses required for the diploma are designated with *</i></p> <p>Required Courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* EDU 119 Intro to Early Child Education 4 SHC</li> <li>* EDU 131 Child, Family, &amp; Community 3 SHC</li> <li>* EDU 146 Child Guidance 3 SHC</li> <li>* EDU 151 Creative Activities 3 SHC</li> <li>* EDU 153 Health, Safety &amp; Nutrition 3 SHC</li> <li>* EDU 221 Children with Exceptional 3 SHC</li> <li>EDU 234 Infants, Toddlers &amp; Twos 3 SHC</li> <li>EDU 280 Language &amp; Literacy Experiences 3 SHC</li> <li>EDU 284 Early Child Capstone Practicum 4 SHC</li> </ul> <p><b>*Child Development. Select one set:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EDU 144 Child Development I 3 SHC</li> <li>&amp; EDU 145 Child Development II 3 SHC</li> <li>OR</li> <li>PSY 244 Child Development I 3 SHC</li> <li>&amp; PSY 245 Child Development II 3 SHC</li> </ul> <p><b>B. Transfer Specialty Area:</b> <i>Required Specialty Subject Areas for students pursuing early childhood education birth to kindergarten transfer per the Early Childhood Articulation Agreement (ECAA); Not required for non-transfer students.</i></p>	<b>35 - 41 SHC</b>	<b>25 SHC</b>	

Select one specialty area\*\*:

**1. Birth to Kindergarten (B-K) Licensure Transfer**

EDU 216 Foundations of Education (4) 3 SHC  
EDU 250 Teacher Licensure Preparation (1) 3 SHC

*\*If Praxis requirement is met by ACT/SAT scores, take any 3 SHC EDU course.*

**2. Early Education Non-Teaching Licensure Transfer**

EDU 261 Early Childhood Admin I 3 SHC  
EDU 262 Early Childhood Admin II 3 SHC

Refer to Blocks 3 and 4 of Block Degree Plan for more information about required EDU courses in the proposed Early Childhood Education Statewide Articulation Agreement.

**C. OTHER MAJOR HOURS** *The remaining other major hours may be chosen from the following prefixes:*  
ACC, ANT, ART, ASL, AST, BIO, BUS, CHM, CIS, COM, CSC, CTS, DAN, DBA, DRA, ECO, EDU, ENG, FRE, GEO, GER, HEA, HIS, HUM, MUS, OST, PED, PHI, PHS, POL, PSY, REL, SCI, SOC, SPA, WBL, and WEB

*Up to two semester hour credits may be selected from ACA.*

*Up to three semester hour credits may be selected from the following prefixes: ARA, ASL, CHI, FRE, GER, ITA, JPN, LAT, POR, RUS and SPA.*

**III. Other Required Hours**

*A college may include courses to meet graduation or local employer requirements in a certificate (0-1 SHC), diploma (0-4 SHC), or an associate in applied science (0-7 SHC) program. These curriculum courses shall be selected from the Combined Course Library and must be approved by the System Office prior to implementation. Restricted, unique, or free elective courses may not be included as other required hours.*

**IV. Employability Competencies**

Fundamental competencies that address soft skills vital to employability, personal, and professional success are listed below. Colleges are encouraged to integrate these competencies into the curriculum by embedding appropriate student learning outcomes into one or more courses or through alternative methods.

- A. Interpersonal Skills and Teamwork** – The ability to work effectively with others, especially to analyze situations, establish priorities, and apply resources for solving problems or accomplishing tasks.
- B. Communication** – The ability to effectively exchange ideas and information with others through oral, written, or visual means.
- C. Integrity and Professionalism** – Workplace behaviors that relate to ethical standards, honesty, fairness, respect, responsibility, self-control, criticism and demeanor.
- D. Problem-solving** – The ability to identify problems and potential causes while developing and implementing practical action plans for solutions.

- E. Initiative and Dependability** – Workplace behaviors that relate to seeking out new responsibilities, establishing and meeting goals, completing tasks, following directions, complying with rules, and consistent reliability.
- F. Information processing** – The ability to acquire, evaluate, organize, manage, and interpret information.
- G. Adaptability and Lifelong Learning** – The ability to learn and apply new knowledge and skills and adapt to changing technologies, methods, processes, work environments, organizational structures and management practices.
- H. Entrepreneurship** – The knowledge and skills necessary to create opportunities and develop as an employee or self-employed business owner.

*\*An **Employability Skills Resource Toolkit** has been developed by NC-NET for the competencies listed above. Additional information is located at: <http://www.nc-net.info/employability.php>*

*\*\*The North Carolina Career Clusters Guide was developed by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and the North Carolina Community College system to link the academic and Career and Technical Education programs at the secondary and postsecondary levels to increase student achievement. Additional information about Career Clusters is located at: [http://www.nc-net.info/NC\\_career\\_clusters\\_guide.php](http://www.nc-net.info/NC_career_clusters_guide.php) or <http://www.careertech.org>.*

*Summary of Required Semester Hour Credits (SHC) for each credential:*

	<b>AAS</b>	<b>Diploma</b>	<b>Certificate</b>
Minimum General Education Hours	15	6	0
Minimum Major Hours	49	30	12
Other Required Hours	0-7	0-4	0-1
<b>Total Semester Hours Credit (SHC)</b>	<b>64-76</b>	<b>36-48</b>	<b>12-18</b>

Approved by the State Board of Community Colleges on August 16, 2012; SBCC Revised 01/18/13; Editorial Revision 02/20/13; Editorial Revision 08/21/13; CRC Revised—Electronic Only 02/05/14; Editorial Revision 03/07/14; SBCC Revised 03/16/18.

*\*\*The Early Childhood Articulation Agreement licensure and non-licensure options apply to all community college students who enter into Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree in Early Childhood Education programs after the effective date of the agreement (Fall 2018) and who successfully complete an Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree in Early Childhood Education prior to transfer.*

## **Appendix D**

### **ECE to BK Independent Transfer Committee Membership**

ECEBKITC members shall serve on an ad hoc basis as cases arise.

The ECEBKITC shall have co-chairs, one from the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) members, and one from the North Carolina Independent Colleges and University (NCICU) members. Co-chairs shall be designated at the time representatives are appointed by the NCCCS and the NCICU as outlined below.

NCCCS Members:

- Four representatives to be appointed by the Chief Academic Officer of NCCCS including:
  - One representative from the NCCCS administration (Non-Voting)
  - Three representatives from community colleges approved to offer the AATP/ASTP degrees

NCICU Members:

- Four representatives to be appointed by the President of the NCICU, including:
  - One representative from NCICU Staff (Non-Voting)
  - Three representatives from the NCICU signatory institutions

## Appendix E

### Articulation Agreement Transfer Credit Appeal Form

#### Section 1: Student Information *(to be completed by the student submitting the form:*

- The completed form and any supporting documentation must be submitted to the signatory NCICU institution's Birth-Kindergarten teacher licensure program or Early Childhood Education non-licensure program Chair/Executive no later than the last day of classes of the first semester for which admission is offered or by the end of the subsequent fall semester for students enrolling in the summer.
- Specify the nature of the appeal and cite the specific Early Childhood Education Articulation Agreement language that is in contention. Appeals that do not include this information cannot be considered.

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ MI: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print or type)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Number and Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Area Code/Number)

NC Community College from which AAS was earned: \_\_\_\_\_

NCICU institution offering admission: \_\_\_\_\_ beginning (semester/year) \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 2: Basis for your appeal:** State your concern(s), citing specific language in the Early Childhood Education Articulation Agreement that is applicable to your contention. Attach Early Childhood Education Articulation Agreement supporting documents.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Received by: \_\_\_\_\_