



Dear Prospective Early Childhood Education Student,

We are pleased that you have shown an interest in the Early Childhood Education (ECE) Program at Oregon Coast Community College (OCCC). The ECE program at OCCC provides a high quality and practical learning.

Enclosed you will find materials about our Career Pathway Certificate (CPC) in Early Childhood Education. This credential provides you the educational foundation and practical experience needed to effectively work with children and families in a wide variety of settings. After you review the materials, please make arrangements to speak with a program advisor at your earliest convenience (information contained in this packet), so that we may assist you in planning your future career in Early Education and Family Studies. Our advisor conducts advising sessions and will help answer any questions you have regarding the program requirements.

We hope you find the enclosed information useful in planning the next step on your academic journey. If you need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our Academic Advisor, Theresa Harper at theresa.harper@oregoncoastcc.org

We're all about your future. Get started n your ECE credential today!

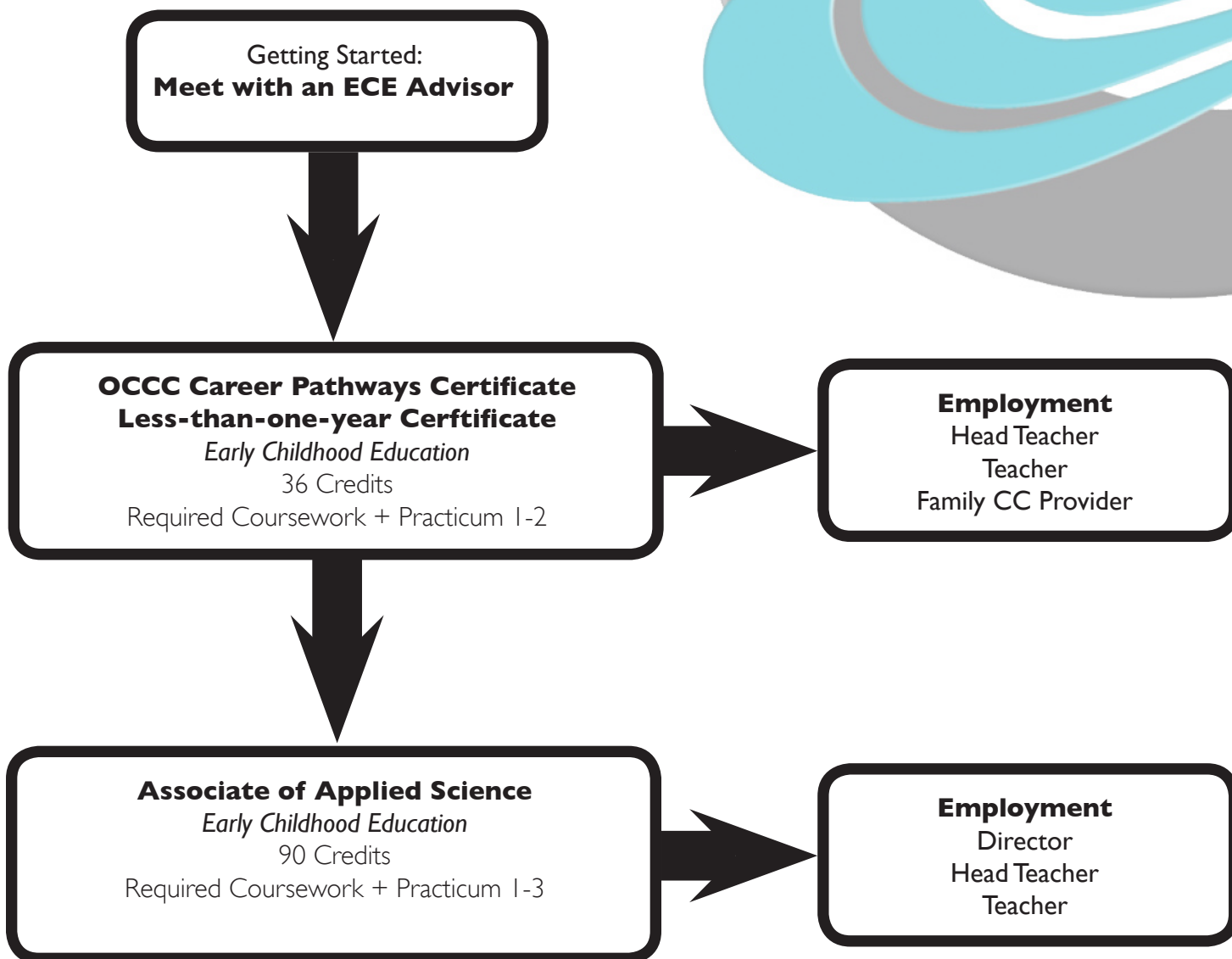
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda Mollino".

Linda Mollino MSN, RN
Director of Career and Technical Education (CTE) Programs
Health and Human Services Careers
Oregon Coast Community College
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OREGON COAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Early Childhood Education Career Pathway



- A complete Early Childhood Education Career Pathway Certificate meets Oregon Office of Child Care requirements for teachers in licensed child care centers.

- A completed AAS degree in Early Childhood Education meets National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) requirements for teachers in infant, toddler, preschool, and school-age programs (available at most community colleges in Oregon).



GETTING STARTED

Early Childhood Education Program

For additional information about the Early Childhood Education Program, visit oregoncoastcc.org/early-childhood-education.

To schedule an appointment with an academic advisor, visit oregoncoastcc.org/advising-appointments, or call 541-867-8501.

OCCC GENERAL ADMISSION

To apply for admission to OCCC, visit our website at oregoncoastcc.org or visit our Central County Campus in Newport or the North County Center in Lincoln City.

COLLEGE EXPENSES

For the latest information on tuition and fees, visit oregoncoastcc.org/student-accounts/

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Oregon Coast Community College
400 SE College Way
Newport, OR 97366
541-867-8501



Early Childhood Education



**OREGON COAST
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

INVESTING IN CHILDREN

The early years shape a life. Research in child development has demonstrated that during the years from birth through 6 years old, important growth occurs in all domains, including social, emotional, cognitive, linguistic and physical development. The early childhood educator – whether a teacher, family or child care provider – plays a critical role in fostering children's development and investing in their future.

In OCCC's Early Childhood Education program, we offer you the skills you need to succeed in the world of early childhood development, early childhood education centers, preschool programming, infant and toddler care, and family child care programs. Employment opportunities may include teaching assistant, child care aide, lead teacher, family child care provider and program director.

WHO WILL HIRE ME?

Graduates of this program are hired by Head Start programs, day-care centers, parent cooperative preschools, private preschools and kindergartens, and resource and referral agencies. Public schools hire graduates as teaching assistants and parents hire graduates as nannies. Most jobs are located in or near cities. Some graduates also start their own in-home childcare and preschool programs. Nationally, employment of infant, toddler, and preschool teachers is projected to grow 7 percent from 2014 to 2024, about as fast as the average for all occupations. Growth is expected due to a continued focus on the importance of early childhood education (US Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2016). Statewide, the total number of job openings is projected to be much higher than the Oregon average number of job openings for all occupations through 2024 (Oregon Employment Department, 2017).

HOW MUCH CAN I EARN?

Median wages in the Portland area with an Early Childhood Education certificate are \$11.56 per hour; with median hourly wages with an associate's degree ranging from \$13.65 to \$15 per hour.

CAREER OVERVIEW

WHAT WILL I DO ON THE JOB?

Teachers and home care providers plan the environment and develop suitable learning experiences for young children in care and education situations. They supervise play and meet physical needs of small children. They assess children's progress and discuss a child's development with parents. As a specialist, you will work closely with young children and their families as the children learn to communicate, solve problems and work and play together. It will be your job to help provide an environment that fosters growth and self-esteem – a place where children can thrive. Early childhood graduates may also work in related fields such as child care resource and referral.

WHAT SKILLS WILL I USE ON THE JOB?

OCCC's program is designed to develop your ability to understand children and their families; observe and assess children; guide children individually and in groups; plan and implement activities; develop and maintain environments where children will thrive; supervise assistants or other teachers; communicate with parents daily and in formal conferences; refer families and children with special needs to appropriate community resources; provide nutritious snacks; identify and correct safety hazards; and maintain children's and a center's records.

The program will also help you develop your abilities to understand diverse children and families, implement observation and guidance techniques to assess children's needs, and develop and plan activities and environments appropriate for each child's unique abilities and interests.

PREPARING YOU FOR STATE CERTIFICATION

Our Early Childhood Education Program is designed to accommodate the part-time and full-time student. Early childhood education courses can be used to fulfill training and education requirements for registered and certified family child care providers, and child care teachers in Oregon.

ACADEMIC OVERVIEW

The Early Childhood Education Career Pathway Certificate meets the requirements for child care teachers in certified child care facilities throughout Oregon.

We offer the following certificate:

- Early Childhood Education Career Pathway Certificate, which requires 36 credits. Writing 115 or its equivalent is strongly recommended.

Before entry into the program, students must:

- Achieve ACCUPLACER (Reading and Writing) and ALEKS (Math) placement scores that demonstrate readiness to successfully complete Writing 115 and Math 60.

While in the program, students must:

- Receive a grade of "C" or "P" or better in all ECE and HEC courses.
- Complete practicum and corresponding coursework for the certificate.

Can I transfer my credits to a university?

Other colleges and universities may accept a portion of this program's credits to apply to a four-year degree. To be certain, check with the other college or university, or contact the OCCC Early Childhood Education program, or an academic advisor.

