

Early Childhood Education Diploma - Accelerated Option

Accelerated Online Option
Tuition-Free | Starting January 2027

Start date: January 4, 2027
Typical length: 19-22 months
Credential: Diploma
Location: eCampus (online asynchronous)

Start your application:
Scan the QR code to access the funding eligibility form or click here

Learn while you work:

The Accelerated option is for Early Childhood Educators (ECEs) currently working in a licensed child care centre or Pre-primary Program in Nova Scotia.

Program Overview:

The Accelerated Option is delivered asynchronously online, meaning you can enjoy the flexibility to learn around your schedule, while benefiting from a clearly defined course sequence and timetable.

Complete work experience requirements in your workplace. Eligible prior ECE learning and work experience may be recognized through Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR).

After successful completion of the ECE diploma, students can apply for a Level 2 Classification under the Early Learning and Child Care Act and Regulations.

Employer Expectations:

Provide **written verification** from your employer that
- Supports your participation in the program,
- Agrees to provide a minimum of 15 hours of work per week for the duration of the program,
- Commits to supporting your workplace practicum

Admission Requirements:

- High School Graduation Diploma or equivalent.
- Hold one of the following:
  - Entry-Level Classification
  - Level 1 Classification
  - School-Age Training Approval
- Currently employed in a licensed child care centre or Pre-primary Program and have a minimum of one year of experience as an ECE in Nova Scotia (equivalent to at least 1,080 hours).
- Reside in Nova Scotia and hold Canadian Citizenship or legal Permanent Resident status
- Have a Canadian Language Benchmark minimum score of 8 or equivalent in all categories (if English is not your first language)
- Work a minimum of 15 hours per week as an ECE in a licensed child care centre or Pre-primary Program.

Funding:

Tuition, student fees, textbooks, and other program costs are fully covered through funding from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

This program is made possible by contributions received through the Canada-Nova Scotia Early Learning and Child Care Agreement coordinated by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

Questions? Contact us:

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https://childcarenovascotia.ca/educators/current-educators/training-pd

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