

COLLEGE TECH PREP**Preschool/Daycare/Educational Aide**

Students study the theory of child development, children's health and safety, guidance techniques, early learning content standards, curriculum design and lesson planning, as well as participate in a speaker series and have the opportunity to complete shadowing experiences. Level II students may participate in paid employment in the childcare field. Students take certification tests in the following areas: first aid and CPR, communicable disease awareness, and child abuse recognition and prevention. Both Level I and II students interact with preschool children in a lab experience setting. Emphasis is placed on the development of a career portfolio to showcase the mastery of the course standards. Throughout the course, students create activities, projects, and lesson plans, which will become part of a toolkit they will use as they begin their career. Students will be qualified to sit for an exam leading to the certification of the Child Development Associate Credential (CDA). Eight college credits are available at The University of Akron, Summit College.

Skills necessary for success:

- Ability to communicate effectively by leading a group of young children and working with other professionals in a childcare setting
- Capable of developing and implementing creative lesson plans based on early learning content standards
- Critical thinking skills and problem solving abilities
- Self confidence to assume responsibility for the care and safety of children
- Ability to work independently and follow directions
- Ability to become certified in CPR, First Aid, Communicable Disease Awareness and Child Abuse Recognition
- Computer and technology skills to create teaching tools

**Program Recommendations**

- Excellent attendance record (93% attendance required for the Career Passport)
- Minimum 2.5 GPA (must be maintained for the Career Passport)

Career Interests/Helpful Background:

- Experience working with children
- Family and Consumer Sciences courses

Career Opportunities and Professional Pathways

- Pre-K, Child Care Center, Head Start, Elementary, Special Education, or Family and Consumer Sciences Teachers
- Management Position or Director in Child Care
- Nanny
- Educational Aide or Paraprofessional
- Childcare Center Staff
- Independent Childcare Provider
- Social Worker
- Recreation Director
- Children's Librarian
- Physical Therapist
- Speech and Hearing Therapist
- Child Psychologist

Higher Education Opportunities

- 8 college credits available at The University of Akron, Summit College. See page 34.
- Associate's Degree in Early Childhood Development
- Bachelor's Degrees: Education, Family and Child Development, Child Life Specialist, Child Psychology

Licenses/Certification

- Paraprofessional Certification
- Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential
- Child Care Worker Certificate

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Length: Two years

School: Tallmadge, David Bacon Building

CREDIT:

Level I - Theory 1; Lab 2

Level II - Theory 1; Lab 2