

# Early Childhood Education

## What is Early Childhood Education?

Early Childhood Education is a profession that promotes the well being and holistic development of children from infancy to school age in child care centres and school age programs. It is regulated by the College of Early Childhood Educators.

## What do Early Childhood Educators do?

Early Childhood Educators work with young children and their families. They are responsible to plan and deliver learning and care for young children in programs that are inclusive and play-based.

## Where do Early Childhood Educators work?

Early childhood educators work in a variety of early learning and care programs including:

- Child Care Centres
- Family Resource Centres
- Ontario Early Years Centres
- Home Child Care
- School Age Programs
- Best Start Programs
- Government/ Regulation
- Post-Secondary ECE training programs

## Education and Preparation

An early childhood educator must have a diploma from a recognized program in Early Childhood Education. This program is two years in length and offered at the college level.

## Licensure

The College of Early Childhood Educators is recognized as the licensing body for Ontario. To be registered as an early childhood educator, a diploma in Early Childhood Education must be obtained.

## Professional Associations

### Association for Early Childhood Educators Ontario

[www.aeceo.ca](http://www.aeceo.ca)

### College of Early Childhood Educators

[www.collegeofece.ca](http://www.collegeofece.ca)