



Early Childhood Education at Kent State University

The Early Childhood Education (ECED) program and faculty have an international reputation for their contributions to the field of Early Education. The program strongly emphasizes field experience, including student teaching in both PreK and grades K-5. The ECED program offers a number of degree options on the Kent campus, as well as regional campuses.

The four-year Bachelor of Science degree in Early Childhood Education can be fully completed at the Kent, Salem, and Tuscarawas campuses. The bachelor's program offers students the skills and resources needed to obtain Ohio licensure for Early Childhood, preschool through grade 5. Courses are designed to develop teachers who are effective across the age span. All bachelor's degree students complete field and practicum experiences in diverse settings, including urban and inclusive programs in preschool and K-5 classrooms.

IB PYP Certificate

Kent State is the only university in Ohio and one of the few universities worldwide offering the International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Program Certificate in Teaching and Learning as part of its undergraduate program for Early Childhood Education. The goal is to give graduates a global perspective, as well as an advantage when applying for K-12 teaching positions in traditional schools and in schools that offer IB programs, including overseas.

Admission Requirements

Students applying to the ECED program must have a GPA of 2.75. As ECED is a selective program, students must also have a minimum GPA of 2.75 to be admitted to Advanced Study (sophomore through senior level courses). Selective admission essay scores are also considered.

Child Development Center

The Child Development Center is an early years laboratory school on the Kent campus. Since 1972, the center has played a central role in the education of young children in the Kent State community, the preparation of teachers, and the generation of knowledge through research. ECED students can participate in the life of the school through field placements and employment opportunities.

The ECED program is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and nationally recognized by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). The ECED program received International Baccalaureate (IB) recognition in 2012.

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