Child Development Program

If you are interested in an exciting and fulfilling career working with young children, Blinn College welcomes your participation in the Child Development Program. If you have a love for children and are committed to helping them grow and develop in the best environment possible, the rewards of helping shape the next generation far outweigh the challenges of the child care profession. Child care workers continue to be in high demand as more and more parents and caregivers enter the workforce and need quality care for their children.

The Blinn College Child Development Program offers many classes applicable to the child care profession. Late afternoon and evening classes meet the needs of non-traditional students and students who work full time. The program offers a Child Care Worker certificate and an Associate of Applied Science degree in child development along with two Marketable Skills Achievement Awards in Early Childhood and Child Care Administration.

What are the employment opportunities as a graduate of the Blinn College Child Development Program?

• Child Development Program graduates who obtain a Child Care Worker certificate are qualified to enter positions as child care assistants or teachers.
• Graduates with an Associate of Applied Science degree in child development are qualified to enter positions such as lead teacher in a child care center, early childhood teacher in a private school, Head Start teacher, substitute teacher, and teaching assistant in a public school setting.
• Students may count Blinn College child development courses as clock hours as applicable in the process of completing a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential from the Council of Professional Recognition in Washington, D.C. (www.cdcouncil.org).

What are the general requirements for entering the Child Development Program?

• All new students must take the THEA or other assessment test (Compass/Accuplacer).
• A majority of the child development courses contain an external learning component where students observe and work with children in educational settings. This must be completed at a public or private child care facility, public elementary school program, Head Start program, or other educational setting.
• All early childhood students participating in external learning experiences must pass a background check including a preliminary, notarized affidavit indicating they have no criminal history. This background check will be conducted by the early childhood facility of record.

What if I wish to transfer to a four-year university?

All academic courses such as English, math, science, social sciences, and speech are transferable to most senior institutions. Technical courses (child development) may also transfer to colleges offering a Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences degree (BAAS) or Bachelor of Applied Science Degree (BAS). Transfer agreements are in place with Sam Houston State University, University of Houston–Clear Lake, Texas State University at San Marcos and Stephen F. Austin State University. Please contact the Child Development Program Coordinator for more information.

Courses with the TECA prefix are academic transfer courses and may be transferable into a baccalaureate in education degree as Early Childhood or Education courses.

Career Path 1 – Complete an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in Child Development with the option of transferring to a senior institution to earn a Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences (BAAS) degree or Bachelor of Applied Science Degree (BAS).

Career Path 2- Complete courses toward a CDA (Child Development Associate Credential) and/or Child Care Worker certificate with the options of completing an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree and a Marketable Skills Achievement Award (MSAA) in Child Care Administration.

Career Path 3 – Complete a Marketable Skills Achievement Award (MSAA) in Early Childhood or a combination of early childhood courses (TECA) and education courses (EDUC) and fulfill the requirements for an associate's degree (Associate of Science or Arts) at Blinn College. Students may then transfer to a senior institution to complete a Bachelor of Arts or Science (BA or BS) to become a certified public school teacher for early childhood through 6th grade, bilingual or special education.

Blinn College seeks to provide equal education without regard to race, color, sex, age, national origin, religion, disability or any other constitutionally or statutorily impermissible reason. This policy extends to all programs and activities supported by the college.
Students in the Blinn College Child Development Program may choose to follow one of three career paths.

**PATH 1**

Complete:
Associate of Applied Science Degree (AAS) in Child Development

Potential jobs:
Lead teacher in a child care center, early childhood teacher in a private school, Head Start Teacher, substitute teacher and teaching assistant in the public schools

Begin Core Courses
Complete:
TECA and EDUC courses - depending on the University degree plan

Complete Marketable Skills Achievement Award (MSAA) in Early Childhood

Transfer to senior institution for Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences (BAAS) or Bachelor of Applied Science Degree (BAS)

Complete:
Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences in Child Development or Bachelor of Applied Science in Child Development

Potential jobs:
Degreed positions in social services: Child Care Management Services (CCMS), Child Care Licensing, Child Protective Services, Head Start

*Once a student has completed the BAAS/BAS - he or she may enroll in an alternative certification program that can lead to teacher certification.

**PATH 2**

Complete:
Child development courses for the purpose of obtaining clock hours towards completing the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential program

Potential job:
Entry-level child care worker
Students may elect to go straight to the Child Care Worker Certificate

Begin Core Courses
Complete:
TECA and EDUC courses - depending on the University degree plan

Complete Marketable Skills Achievement Award (MSAA) in Early Childhood

Complete:
Child Care Worker Certificate

Potential jobs:
Child care assistant, teacher

Complete:
Associate of Applied Science Degree (AAS) in Child Development

Potential jobs:
Lead teacher in a child care center, early childhood teacher in a private school, director of a child care program, Head Start Teacher, substitute teacher and teaching assistant in the public schools

Complete:
 Marketable Skills in Child Care Administration (MSAA) Director’s Credential

Potential jobs: Director of a child care program

**PATH 3**

Complete:
Bachelor’s Degree-Teacher Certification- Early Childhood-6th Grade Certification. Special education, Bilingual, 4th-8th

Potential jobs: Public school teacher Early Childhood-6th Grade Special Education, Bilingual, 4th-8th Teaching Positions

Begin Core Courses
Complete:
TECA and EDUC courses - depending on the University degree plan

Complete Marketable Skills Achievement Award (MSAA) in Early Childhood

Complete:
Associate of Science or Associate of Arts Degree Early Childhood Emphasis: TECA or Education Emphasis TECA & EDUC

Transfer to senior institution in the field of teacher education

Complete:
Bachelor’s Degree-Teacher Certification- Early Childhood-6th Grade Certification. Special education, Bilingual, 4th-8th

Potential jobs: Public school teacher Early Childhood-6th Grade Special Education, Bilingual, 4th-8th Teaching Positions