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# Early Childhood Education

## What does an early childhood education major study?

Early childhood education is a specifically designed program of study that meets educational requirements for South Carolina licensure in grades PK-3. Students pursuing a program of study in early childhood education become involved in a broad range of learning experiences. Study in the core areas of English, math, science and social studies as well as art, music and physical education prepares students for what they will be expected to teach in the public schools. These studies, along with instruction in child growth and development, teaching methodology, curriculum, and relevant off-campus clinical experiences, offer students a program rich in opportunities and professional growth.

## Why study early childhood education at Coastal Carolina University?

- The Spadoni College of Education is nationally accredited by NCATE (National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education) as well as the South Carolina Board of Education.
- Students who earn a degree from Coastal Carolina University and who are granted licensure by the state of South Carolina are eligible for reciprocal licensure in every other state.
- The early childhood education program includes extensive clinical experiences in area schools, beginning in the first semester of study in education and continuing through the internship experience at the end of the program. Clinical fieldwork begins with a focus on guided observation experiences, followed by expectations for individual, small group and whole-class instruction.
- Coastal Carolina University offers two student organizations for education majors: Education Club and the national education honor society, Kappa Delta Pi.

## How are students admitted to the program?

Candidates may complete a formal application for admission to the professional program in teacher education (PPTE) when they have completed at least 60 hours of college level coursework and have met the following requirements:

- Earn at least a 2.5 cumulative GPA;
- Earn a "C" or better in ENGL 101, ENGL 102 or 211, EDUC 111, EDUC 276, ENGL 205, 287 or 288, MATH 201 & 202, HIST 201 or POLI 201, HIST 202, GEOG 121, 8 hours of sciences; Physical Education majors must also pass EDPE 131; Early Childhood Education majors must pass EDUC 276);
- Pass all three areas of Praxis I or meet the exemption policy;
- Successfully clear a criminal background check; and
- Complete a Professional Behavior and Dispositions Self-Evaluation submitted in Live Text.

*(Candidates are reviewed for acceptance into the Professional Program in Teacher Education by the Portal I Faculty Committee.)*

## What kind of courses do early childhood education majors take?

EDEC 332 Child Development: The Young Child      EDEC 376 Integrated Math/Science/Social Studies I  
EDEC 339 Early Childhood Programs & Curriculum      EDEC 377 Strategies for Teaching & Learning with Literature  
EDEC 325 Guiding Young Children's Behavior & Classroom Management

## Whom can I contact for more information?

- Cathy Jones, Ed.D., coordinator of early childhood education, 843-349-2356 or [cjones1@coastal.edu](mailto:cjones1@coastal.edu)
- You can also find more information at [www.coastal.edu/education](http://www.coastal.edu/education).