

Welcome to the Early Childhood Education Program!

We are looking forward to getting to know you and guiding you as you begin your career. We hope that you will enjoy learning about providing quality experiences for young children.

The ECE program has four Practicum courses which places you in community programs to work with children. When you are accepted into the ECE program, we advise that in your first semester you enroll in **Introductory Practicum** to ensure this career is a good fit for you.

Introductory Practicum – Familiarizes students with the role and responsibilities of an early childhood teacher. This course includes a requirement for 10 Service-Learning hours interacting with young children.

Intermediate Practicum – Placed in the field 8 hours a week to work with children ages 6 weeks – 2 1/2 years of age under close supervision by instructor & cooperating teacher. Required virtual class meetings with on-line assignments.

Preschool Practicum – Placed in the field 8 hours a week to work with children ages 3-5 years of age under close supervision by instructor & cooperating teacher. Begin to plan and implement activities with some supervision. Required virtual class meetings with on-line assignments.

Advanced Practicum – Additional responsibility to manage the whole classroom and activities with some supervision. Placement in a program is matched to your career goals. Required virtual orientation with on-line assignments.

- ◆ You are responsible for arranging your own transportation for practicum and observations.

To participate in community programs with young children, WI State law requires that you meet some minimum health requirements. These are due during **Introductory Practicum**:

Health requirements: *(Required by mid-November):*

Physical Exam performed by a doctor or health care provider.

****Must use the form Staff Health Report and obtain signatures.****

Background Check

The Department of Children and Families requires everyone working with young children to have a full background check every 12 months, which includes fingerprinting, a juvenile record and sex offender registry check. This process will be explained in class. Students are responsible for the \$40 fee to complete the background check process. This process is completed by the Department of Children and Families. MPTC will support you in the completion process.

Training Requirements: *Completion of this certificate is required by mid-November).*

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) with automated external defibrillator (AED) including infant and child training must be completed before you can begin your practicum experience. You must hold CPR with AED

certification to be allowed to work with children. Everyone registered for any Practicum 1-4 must have a current CPR training certificate.

MPTC offers CPR with AED or you may contact any other agency to complete your in-person CPR training (*Online CPR classes are not allowed*).

Identification lanyard Purchase:

Students will purchase a lanyard to insert their MPTC student ID to wear at practicum placements. Students should obtain a Student ID from the Student Services Desk at the MPTC campus nearest to them.

Textbooks

Tips when making decisions about renting or purchasing your textbooks from the bookstore:

- The following three books are used throughout many courses and are useful for your career. All 4 practicums use the following textbooks, and some are used in other courses as well. Hold on to these until graduation!
 - 1) DCF 251 Administrative Code – Group Child Care Center Licensing Regulations
 - 2) Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards (used in 6 courses)
 - 3) The Infant/toddler Environmental Rating Scale and Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale are each used in multiple courses. (SSAMM, STEM, Intermediate, Preschool & Advanced Practicum)

Courses that use the same primary textbooks

- Social Studies, Art, Music & Movement and Science, Technology, Engineering & Math
- Infant-Toddler Development and Child Development

Sincerely,

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