

Welcome to the Early Childhood Education Program!

Your commitment to take credit courses is your first step towards becoming a more quality educator and to better serve the children in your care. Working in the early childhood field, you already have immense background knowledge that will support you in your coursework.

Since you are already working in early childhood, you know that this is the right career for you! Your work experience and past training may make you eligible for Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) for certain courses. Please see requirements below. (*Your Academic Advisor can support you with the process to complete CPL in place of taking some of the early childhood courses. Apply at Morainepark.edu/academics/credit-for-prior-learning.*)

Health, Safety and Nutrition: In this course students learn to follow governmental regulations and professional standards as they apply to health, safety and nutrition; provide a safe, healthy and nutritious early childhood program; and earn certificates of training in Mandated Reporter, Abusive Head Trauma and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. **1,000 hours experience within the past 5 years as a paid classroom caregiver in a licensed child care program qualifies you to apply for CPL for this course.*

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.

* 1,000 hours experience within the past 5 years as a paid classroom caregiver in a licensed child care program or a Child Development Associate (CDA) qualifies you to apply for CPL for this course.*

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

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.

Credit for Prior learning is not available for this course.

Advanced Practicum – Additional responsibility to manage the whole classroom and activities with supervision. Required virtual class meetings with on-line assignments.

Credit for Prior Learning is not available for this course.

To participate in community programs with young children in observations, service learning or practicum coursework,

- You are responsible for arranging your own transportation.
- WI State laws require minimum health requirements. These are due during the Introductory Practicum course or CPL process:

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.****

If you are currently working in a licensed child care program you may provide a copy of your Staff Health Report that was completed no more than 12 months prior to October 31, 2024.

Background Check

The Department of Children and Families requires everyone working in a licensed child care program to have a full background check every 12 months, which also includes fingerprinting (every 5 years), a juvenile record and sex offender registry check.

If you work in a licensed child care program, you will not need to complete another background check. If you work for the school system you may need to complete the background check process.

This process is 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.

Training Requirements: (Proof of 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. Everyone registered for any Practicum 1-4 must have a current training certificate.

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

Identification lanyard Purchase:

Students purchase a lanyard to insert their MPTC student ID to wear at Service Learning and Practicum placements. Students 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 used in multiple courses. (SSAMM, STEM, Intermediate, Preschool & Advanced Practicum)

Courses that use the same primary textbook

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

Sincerely,

Anne Schrankler
Early Childhood Education Instructor
aschrankler@morainepark.edu

Jennifer Irish
Early Childhood Education Instructor
jjirish2@morainepark.edu

imagine what's **next**

morainepark.edu

235 North National Avenue, PO Box 1940, Fond du Lac, WI 54936-1940 ○ Phone 920-922-8611
700 Gould Street, Beaver Dam, WI 53916-1994 ○ Phone 920 887-1101
2151 North Main Street, West Bend, WI 53090-1598 ○ Phone 262-334-3413

Moraine Park Technical College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in employment, admissions or its programs or activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the College's nondiscrimination policies: Equal Opportunity Officer, Moraine Park Technical College, 235 North National Avenue, PO Box 1940, Fond du Lac, WI 54936-1940, 920-924-6355 or 920-924-3495.