

Implementation Recommendations for the Early Childhood Education Profession

Preparation Pathways for New and Future Early Childhood Educators

Recommendation 1:

ECE I Preparation Pathway: Three Courses and Field Experience

Individual License Designation: ECE I

Recommendation: Create an ECE I preparation pathway with three existing credit-bearing courses at CCV and 80 hours of field experience.

This pathway is for individuals newly entering the early childhood education profession who wish to apply for an ECE I license to practice in a support role as part of a team. Evidence of successful completion will be a transcript and documentation of field experience.

Affordable, Credit-bearing, Stackable Courses

Successful completion of three credit-bearing, stackable courses at Community College of Vermont (CCV), or equivalent college coursework, aligns with *Unifying Framework* recommendations and NAEYC's *Professional Standards and Competencies*. The courses are:

Introduction to Early Childhood Education
Child Development
Supporting Young Children with Diverse Abilities

Field Experience Requirements

- 80 hours minimum interacting with children, engaging in play, observing classroom management strategies, supporting health and safety practices, and assisting with the daily schedule and routines
- Experience is located in a regulated early childhood education setting
- Documentation is completed and signed by supervisor, mentor, or other with professional capacity to assess experience
- Form includes dates of experience, setting, and assessment of professional quality standards

Questions about this recommendation? Contact [Rachel Hunter, Outreach Coordinator](#).

VTAEYC helps early childhood educators access the resources and supports they will need to transition to the early childhood education profession.

Visit vtaeyc.org or contact info@vtaeyc.org to learn about scholarships, grants, bonuses, and other resources, as well as our commitment to advocate for phased-in implementation that honors the current and future workforce.

Designing an Early Childhood Education Profession: Who are these recommendations for?

Each recommendation comes from our [Task Force and Core Team](#), with support from additional focus groups and design teams. They are intended as ready-to-use, workforce-informed design recommendations for a future Vermont early childhood education professional board.

These align with the recommendations of the [Unifying Framework for the Early Childhood Education Profession](#). This is the core of a shared vision of a Vermont early childhood education profession informed by hundreds of Vermont early childhood educators through a consensus-based approach.

Please visit vtaeyc.org to learn more about our process.

