



Early Care and Education

With the early years of children's education being so crucial to development, you have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to truly impact the life of a youngster for decades to come. The early lessons of letters and numbers provide a truly rewarding experience as you see children's eyes light up from understanding what they have learned.

With an associate's degree in Early Care and Education, you'll learn to understand the physical, emotional, language, and behavioral development of infants, toddlers and school-aged children. You'll also be able to prepare age-appropriate lesson plans and establish an environment that encourages children to learn. The ECE program offers quality classroom instruction, as well as a variety of high-quality experiential teaching labs.

Learn more about [program requirements](#) and related certificates. Scroll to the degree program and select "display programs."

PLUS »



Our small class sizes and relational teaching creates a family atmosphere that lasts long past graduation!



We engage students with practical application of skills from the very first semester and build on that training through multiple external field placements in high quality early learning settings.



Tri-County has a strong articulation agreement that allows our graduates to transfer to Southern Wesleyan University to earn a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education or Early Childhood and Family Studies.

[T.E.A.C.H. Scholarships Information](#)

CONNECT WITH US

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[TCTC.edu/APPLY](https://www.tctc.edu/APPLY)

Career Outlooks and Average Salaries

Job Title	What You Do	Salary			# Job Openings
		Entry	Median	Skilled	
Education Administrators, Preschool and Childcare Center/Program	Plan, direct, or coordinate the academic and nonacademic activities of preschool and childcare centers or programs.	\$22,480	\$34,060	\$61,398	37
Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	Instruct preschool-aged children in activities designed to promote social, physical, and intellectual growth needed for primary school in preschool, day care center, or other child development facility. May be required to hold State certification.	\$16,934	\$22,166	\$33,494	358
Teacher Assistants	Perform duties that are instructional in nature or deliver direct services to students or parents. Serve in a position for which a teacher has ultimate responsibility for the design and implementation of educational programs and services.	\$16,781	\$21,644	\$33,194	631
Childcare Workers	Attend to children at schools, businesses, private households, and childcare institutions. Perform a variety of tasks, such as dressing, feeding, bathing, and overseeing play.	\$12,103	\$17,853	\$33,267	756
Nannies	Care for children in private households and provide support and expertise to parents in satisfying children's physical, emotional, intellectual, and social needs. Duties may include meal planning and preparation, laundry and clothing care, organization of play activities and outings, discipline, intellectual stimulation, language activities, and transportation.	\$12,103	\$17,853	\$33,267	756

