

Early Childhood Education Endorsement

Specifications, Competencies & Requirements

PURPOSE

This endorsement is meant for certified teachers interested in teaching **Early Childhood Education** courses. It attaches to a current Utah Educator License with a license area of concentration in **Secondary** or **CTE** Education.

Upon attachment of this endorsement to a Utah educator license, educators will be approved to teach the following USBE courses:

- Child Development
- Early Childhood Education 1
- Early Childhood Education 2
- Early Childhood Education 3
- Early Childhood Intern

ENDORSEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Prerequisite

Demonstrate an understanding of Career and Technical Education (CTE) basics.

- CTE Knowledge

Associate Level Requirements

Applicants must complete **TWO** of the following competency requirements. The associate level endorsement is valid for up to three school years before it expires. Associate-level endorsements are non-renewable.

- Child Development
- Introductory Early Childhood Education
- Industry Standards for Early Childhood Education
- FCCLA Advising
- FCS Lab Safety & Procedures

Professional Level Requirements

The applicant must meet **ALL** the competency areas listed above.

COMPETENCY DETAILS & DESCRIPTIONS

Prerequisites

1. CTE Knowledge

Demonstrate an understanding of CTE basics:

- Explain how CTE links learning to specific Utah industries and what its main goals are.
- Know the licenses and endorsements needed to teach specific CTE courses.
- Describe how CTE is organized into clusters and pathways at the state, district (LEA), and school levels, and how this helps students succeed after graduation.
- Locate and use the state's strands and standards in lesson plans.
- Explore CTE student organizations (CTSOs) and professional groups and explain how they support students and teachers.
- Explain how advisory boards, with industry members, make sure programs meet job market needs and maintain safe learning environments.
- Understand the basics of securing funding, planning for the future of the program, and participating in the state Program of Quality Review (PQR) to ensure program excellence.

Select one of the following options:

- **USBE Course:** [CTE Orientation](#)
- **Complete THREE years of full-time CTE Teaching in Utah**
- **Currently hold a professional-level CTE endorsement**

Endorsement Competencies

2. Child Development

Comprehensive overview of the major physical, socioemotional, and cognitive/language developmental milestones for children, both typical and atypical, through middle childhood. Emphasis on interactions between maturational processes and environmental factors. While studying developmental theory and investigative research methodologies, students observe children, evaluate individual differences, and analyze characteristics of development at various stages.

Select one of the following options:

- **Work Experience:** 3 Years of work experience in the Early Childhood Education industry (ex, preschool teacher, childcare worker, or school counselor). Letter of recommendation including detailed job duties related to Early Childhood Education, years of employment, and supervisor contact information, or redacted tax returns showing business ownership.
- **College Course:** At least 3 credit hours and passing grades in a Human Development Course (ex, FHS 1500).
- **Microcredentials (all required):**
 - Child Development Pathway
 - Developmental Theories - Advanced
 - Developmental Theories - Beginner
 - Early Childhood and Preschool
 - Infancy
 - Prenatal Development

- **NOCTI Exam:** Successful completion of the [#5183 Early Childhood Education and Care](#) with a score of 62 or higher on the written exam, and 85.3 or higher on the Performance exam.
- **Certification CDA:** Earned Child Development Associate credential

3. Introductory Early Childhood Education

An overview of the historical roots of early childhood education; theoretical approaches, developmentally appropriate practice, types and efficacy of early childhood programs; and political issues and ethical conduct within the early childhood profession. Including lecture and field observations.

Select one of the following options:

- **Work Experience:** 3 Years of work experience in the Early Childhood Education industry (ex, preschool teacher, childcare worker, or school counselor). Letter of recommendation including detailed job duties related to Early Childhood Education, years of employment, and supervisor contact information, or redacted tax returns showing business ownership.
- **College Course:** At least 3 credit hours and passing grades in an Intro to Early Childhood Education (ex, FHS 2600) course.
- **Microcredentials (all required):**
 - Developmentally Appropriate Practices Pathway
 - DAP Principles and Considerations
 - Observation Techniques for Early Childhood Education
 - Types of Learning for Early Childhood Education
 - Age-Appropriate Curriculum Pathway
 - Early Childhood Content Areas
 - Stages of Play
- **NOCTI Exam:** Successful completion of the [#5183 Early Childhood Education and Care](#) with a score of 62 or higher on the written exam, and 85.3 or higher on the Performance exam.
- **Certification CDA:** Earned Child Development Associate credential

4. Industry Standards for Early Childhood Education

Knowledge of the overview of the profession of early childhood education, current philosophies, laws and regulations, teaching techniques, and approaches to curricula found in programs for young children.

Select one of the following options:

- **Work Experience:** 3 Years of work experience in the Early Childhood Education industry (ex, preschool teacher, kindergarten teacher, or childcare worker). Letter of recommendation including detailed job duties related to Early Childhood Education, years of employment, and supervisor contact information, or redacted tax returns showing business ownership.
- **College Course:** At least 3 credit hours and passing grades in a Child Guidance (ex, EDEC 2620) course.
- Utah Department of Health & Human Services Licensing in one of the following:
 - R381-40 Commercial Preschool Programs
 - R381-100 Child Care Centers
 - R430-90 Licensed Family Child Care
- **Microcredentials (all required):**

- Early Childhood Industry Pathway
 - Careers & CDA in Early Childhood Education
 - Child Abuse
 - Licensing Rules and Regulations for Early Childhood Education
 - Responsibilities of an Early Childhood Educator
- Positive Guidance Techniques
- **NOCTI Exam:** Successful completion of the [#5183 Early Childhood Education and Care](#) with a score of 62 or higher on the written exam, and 85.3 or higher on the Performance exam.
- **Certification CDA: Earned Child Development Associate credential**

5. FCCLA Advising

Demonstrate leadership knowledge by empowering student members to develop leadership skills and take initiative. Provide mentorship opportunities, helping students set goals and navigate challenges in their growth. Show knowledge in organizational management, coordinating meetings, events, and budgeting while overseeing administrative tasks. Develop programs and methods to align with the CTSO's mission, fostering leadership development, career exploration, and skill-building. Possess strong communication skills to engage with members, administrators, and stakeholders and promote the CTSO within the community. Collaborate with school faculty, industry partners, and organizations to create opportunities like internships and community service projects. Demonstrate advocacy skills to promote CTE and secure resources and recognition. Demonstrate commitment to professional development and staying informed about CTSO management and CTE trends. Show prioritization of student success by advocating for their interests and celebrating achievements.

Select one of the following options:

- **FCCLA New Advisor Training:** This is an in-person option offered each summer. Visit the [CTE Calendar](#) for more information.
- **USBE Canvas Course:** [FCCLA New Advisor Canvas Course](#)
- [FCCLA Microcredential](#)

6. FCS Lab Safety & Procedures

Demonstrate best practices relevant to ECE education. Integrating safety principles and procedures into a preschool lab. Demonstrate methods for training in, conducting, and managing an ECE lab, and legal and regulatory requirements relevant to ECE education. Demonstrate awareness of strategies in establishing and maintaining partnerships with industry stakeholders to enhance student learning and career opportunities.

Select one of the following options:

- **ECE New Teacher Training:** This in-person option is offered each summer. Visit the [CTE Calendar](#) for more information.
- **USBE Canvas Course:** [FCS New Teacher Training](#). Complete modules 1-2 and 6.
- [ECE Lab Safety and Procedures Microcredential](#)
- **Certification CDA: Earned Child Development Associate credential**