

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND EARLY LEARNING - CAREER FOUNDATIONS CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION (CFC)

*Pending approval from the Higher Education Coordinating Commission.

Description

The Behavioral Health and Early Learning Career Foundations Certificate provides early learning educators and rising behavioral health professionals with the initial content, skills, and dispositions to support children and their caregivers through trauma-sensitive and developmentally appropriate practices. Required coursework will address the social, emotional, and therapeutic needs of children and those who care for them.

This certificate prepares rising educators and behavioral health professionals for initial employment opportunities that include classroom teaching, social work, family advocacy, human and social services, and therapeutic support. Courses required for Behavioral Health, and Early Learning align with requirements for the AAS in Behavioral Health and the AAS in Early Childhood education.

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the certificate, students will be able to:

1. Examine the interrelatedness of family systems and school environments with respect to child-adult interaction.
2. Apply knowledge of child development, family systems, intervention, and appropriate referral practices to clinical and educational settings.
3. Describe social and emotional needs of children and the adults who care for them.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the pervasive developmental impact of trauma.
5. Develop interpersonal skills and professional strategies for career longevity and success.

Entrance Requirements

Other Entrance Requirements

Required:

- The ECE program requires a background check through the Oregon Department of Early Learning and Care (DELIC) or other approved agency.
- Some field practicum sites may require documentation of current immunizations, including the COVID-19 vaccine. Please contact the program director if you have any questions.
- Students should review the program's policies and procedures in the COCC [Early Childhood Student Handbook](#) before beginning their coursework.

Additional Costs (Beyond Standard Tuition/Fees and Textbooks)

Material Costs

- Background check (\$0 to \$70)
- Cost of mileage to and from field placement/practicum sites

Course Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
Core Courses:		
BH 203	Introduction to Behavioral Health and Early Learning	4
BH 204	Youth, Family, & Addiction	4
BH 209	Introduction to Psychological Trauma: Theory and Practice	4
ED 176	Supporting Social, Emotional, and Mental Health in Early Childhood	3
ED 245	Trauma Sensitive Classrooms	3
PSY 201Z	Introduction to Psychology I	4
or PSY 202Z	Introduction to Psychology II	
Other Required Courses:		
Choose one of the following:		3-4
BH 208	Multicultural Issues for Helpers	
ED 219	Multicultural Issues in Education Settings	
ED 224	Anti-Bias Curriculum in Education	
Choose one of the following:		3-4
BH 260	Counseling Theories	
ED 141	Youth Mentoring and Advocacy	
ED 152	Family, School and Community Relationships in ECE	
ED 265	Children at Risk	
Total Credits		28-30

Advising Notes

Please note that some courses are only offered one time per academic year, you are strongly encouraged to work closely with your academic advisor to create an efficient academic plan.

This certificate is designed for students planning to enter their chosen career upon graduation. Often, only selected credits are considered transferable to public or private baccalaureate institutions.

For current and potential students who have obtained a Child Development Associate or Step 7 or higher on the Oregon Registry and who wish to apply this toward their AAS or certificates in Early Childhood Education, please speak with the program director, [Amy Howell](#) (ahowell@cocc.edu), to discuss options and next steps.

Performance Standards

- Academic Requirements:
 - Students must have a 2.0 cumulative GPA to earn a COCC certificate or degree.
 - All courses in the program must be completed with a grade of C or higher.
- Additional Requirements:
 - For field placement and practicum courses, students may be asked to provide evidence of background check clearance,
 - Adhere to the field placement contract; and

- Adhere to confidentiality, communication, and health-related and no-smoking policies as they pertain to field placement settings.

Sample Plan

First Year

First Term		Credits
BH 209	Introduction to Psychological Trauma: Theory and Practice	4
PSY 201Z or PSY 202Z	Introduction to Psychology I or Introduction to Psychology II	4
Choose one of the following:		3-4
BH 260	Counseling Theories ¹	
ED 141	Youth Mentoring and Advocacy	
ED 152	Family, School and Community Relationships in ECE	
ED 265	Children at Risk	
Credits		11-12

Second Term

ED 176	Supporting Social, Emotional, and Mental Health in Early Childhood	3
ED 245	Trauma Sensitive Classrooms	3
Choose one of the following:		3-4
BH 208	Multicultural Issues for Helpers	
ED 219	Multicultural Issues in Education Settings	
ED 224	Anti-Bias Curriculum in Education ¹	
Credits		9-10

Third Term

BH 203	Introduction to Behavioral Health and Early Learning	4
BH 204	Youth, Family, & Addiction	4
Credits		8
Total Credits		28-30

¹ Offered spring term only.

Please note some classes are only offered one time per academic year, you are strongly encouraged to work closely with your academic advisor to create an academic plan.