



A No-Cost, Earn-While-You-Learn Opportunity for Career Advancement

CONCURRENT/DUAL ENROLLMENT FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS PROGRAM

WHAT IS THE OPPORTUNITY?

Sponsored by the Early Childhood Education Professional Development Organization (ECEPDO) at the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE), the Concurrent Enrollment for Early Childhood Educators Program is an opportunity for high school juniors and seniors to enroll in college-level courses that will lead to earning a Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential. The CDA is a national credential for the early childhood education workforce. On successful completion, students can apply for a teaching job at an early learning center or transfer credits to Shippensburg University or another ECEPDO educational partner. This opportunity prepares students to be career and/or college ready for an in-demand occupation.



WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS TO STUDENTS?

- ✓ Students interested to teach very young children can “jump-start” their career and/or higher education goals.
- ✓ Students earn-while-they-learn as they interact with young children at a DHS-licensed child care facility.
- ✓ College courses are taken concurrently with high school courses using 24/7 online, asynchronous learning.
- ✓ College courses are **tuition-free** and credits are transferable to Shippensburg University and numerous ECEPDO-partner colleges/universities.
- ✓ The CDA credential gives students a competitive edge in the job market.

DISTRICT RESPONSIBILITIES

- ✓ Meet with an ECEPDO@PASSHE representative to learn about the Concurrent Enrollment for Early Childhood Educators Program.
- ✓ Obtain permission/support to implement this program in your school district.
- ✓ Publicize this learning opportunity and recruit students to participate.
- ✓ Provide a clearly defined process for students to sign-up for program and course participation.
- ✓ Collaborate with ECEPDO leadership to plan instructional and supervisory supports for students taking online coursework.
- ✓ Regularly meet (in-person, online, or via phone conference) with an ECEPDO@PASSHE representative.

TEACHER RESPONSIBILITIES

- ✓ Help to market the Concurrent Enrollment for Early Childhood Educators Program to students.
- ✓ Assist students during sign-up to ensure a smooth process.
- ✓ Provide instructional support for course-enrolled students and access supports available through the PDO.
- ✓ Collaborate with technology support personnel, so online courses run smoothly and efficiently.
- ✓ Regularly meet (in-person, online, or via phone conference) with an ECEPDO@PASSHE representative to report progress, issues, and any other needs.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- ✓ Discuss the Concurrent Enrollment for Early Childhood Educators Program opportunity with your school counselor and parents/guardians.
- ✓ Express a desire and have the ability to work with very young children to gain experience.
- ✓ Follow the established process to sign-up for the program.
- ✓ Meet with instructional and technology staff so you are informed.
- ✓ Successfully complete all required coursework and tasks.
- ✓ Meet with an ECEPDO@PASSHE representative if/when scheduled.

*Concurrent enrollment refers to college coursework that is taught by high school teachers at the high school.

**Dual enrollment refers to college coursework that is taught by college instructors asynchronously, on campus, or hybrid.

The Concurrent Enrollment for Early Childhood Educators Program is an ideal, no-cost career advancement opportunity that can accelerate career pathways for HS graduates.

