

## **REQUEST TO APPROVE NEW PROGRAM – ASSOCIATE OF ARTS IN EARLY CHILDHOOD**

### **Recommendation:**

The Instructional Council recommends approval of the new program – Associate of Arts in Early Childhood (AAEC) .

### **Summary:**

The Associate of Arts in Early Childhood transfer degree offers foundational education that enhances good communication skills and provides wide general knowledge while allowing the early childhood student the opportunity to also complete the core early childhood courses leading to a CDA Credential, the most widely-recognized credential in early childhood education. The AAEC degree is designed for students planning to continue their education by transferring to one of the three Arizona public universities. Proposed effective date of this modification is Fall 2015.

## **Transfer Degree**

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### **Associate of Arts - Early Childhood (AAEC)**

### **Why study Early Childhood?**

### **Love working with young children?**

Students Interested in the Early Childhood field have several pathways available to them including two degree options - an Associate of Arts -Early Childhood or an Associate of Applied Science (AAS).

The Associate of Arts-Early Childhood transfer degree offers foundational education that enhances good communication skills and provides wide general knowledge while allowing the early childhood student the opportunity to also complete the core early childhood courses leading to a CDA Credential, the most widely-recognized credential in early childhood education. In Arizona, K-3 teachers are also now required to have birth to 8-year old early educator/caregiver experience. Many early childhood settings also are requiring early educators/providers to obtain bachelor degrees in

early childhood.

The AA-EC degree is designed for students planning to continue their education by transferring to one of the three Arizona public universities. It is specifically designed to fulfill the lower division general education requirements of the Arizona General Education Curriculum (AGEC-A) which when completed, will transfer to any of the three public Arizona state universities as a block meeting all lower division general education requirements.

Additionally, with your AAEC degree in hand, you may meet current early childhood mandates required by several early childhood programs to be a classroom teacher, teacher assistant, provider or home visitor. You will have the credentials to work in your chosen setting while completing your bachelor's degree.

### NPC Requirements

- The Associate of Arts in Early Childhood degree requires a minimum of 64 hours of course credits with a “C” or better in all courses and a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Some courses have **placement requirements** or **prerequisites** that may result in coursework beyond 64 credits. These courses, too, require a grade of “C” or better. For information about prerequisites, see an NPC academic adviser.
- In most general education courses, special emphasis is placed on developing written communication skills with intensive writing requirements. Race and ethnic issue awareness is embedded throughout the general education requirements. Specific courses, as noted, meet the requirement for Contemporary Global/International or Historical Awareness.

## Associate of Arts - Early Childhood (AAEC) • 64 credits

Completion of the 35 general education course credits fulfills requirements for the Arizona General Education Curriculum (AGEC-A) for the Associate of Arts Early Childhood degree. (see *What is AGECA?* – page 83)

**General Education courses** ..... 35 credits

**Communications** ..... 6 credits

(Select two courses from the list on page 84)

**Mathematics** ..... 3 credits

Select one of the following, **OR** a mathematics course for which MAT 142 or MAT 152 is a prerequisite.

MAT 142 College Mathematics with Contemporary Applications. 3 credits

MAT 152 Advanced Algebra ..... 3 credits

### Discipline Studies

**Arts and Humanities** ..... 6 credits

(Select three courses from at least two disciplines from the list on page 84)

**Physical and Biological Science** ..... 8 credits

(Select two courses from the list on page 84)

**Social and Behavioral Sciences** ..... 9 credits

PSY 101 Introduction to Psychology

SOC 225 Sociology of the Family

POS 110 American Government

**Computer Science** ..... 3 credits

(Select a course from the list on page \_\_\_\_)



# Northland Pioneer College

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**Required Electives ..... 24 22 credits**

- Mat 161 (Algebra-based Mathematics for Elementary
- Teacher I..... 3 credits
- Math 162 (Algebra-based Mathematics for Elementary
- Teachers II..... 3 credits
- ECD 100 Providing a Healthy Environment ..... 1 credit
- ECD 101 The Child's Total Learning Environment... ..... 1 credit
- ECD 102 Ensuring a Safe Environment.....1 credit
- ECD 103 Planned Arrangement and Schedules.....1 credit
- ECD 105 Guidance Principles for Encouraging Self-Discipline.....1 credit
- ECD 108 Techniques for Observing Children.....1 credit
- ECD 110 Building Relationships with Parents Through Communication
- OR
- ECD112 Enhancing Family Involvement.....1 credit
- ECD 115 Nutrition in Early Childhood..... 1 credit
- ECD 120 Enhancing a Positive Self-Concept.....1 credit
- ECD 125 Creative Media.....1 credit
- ECD 200 Introduction to Early Childhood Education..... 3 credits
- ECD 250 Child Development 1.....3 credits
- ECD 270 CDA Assessment Prep.....2 credits

**AND**

**Additional Electives ..... 5 credits 7 credits**

Successful completion of ~~five~~ **seven** credits of unduplicated **university transferable** electives

