



For students planning to major in:  
**Early Childhood Education (ECE)**  
transfer from Associate in Arts degree

**This guide is for students transferring with an Associate in Arts (AA) degree to a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education in Illinois.**

Early childhood programs prepare students to work with children from birth through grade 2 (licensure programs) or older young children (non-licensure programs). Depending on the type of degree program, students can consider work in child care or preschool settings, public or private schools, social agencies, government agencies, or other environments that need specific knowledge about young children and their needs. For their academic programs and future employers, students should prepare to document and meet all health and background checks required by academic programs and employers.

### **ECE Licensure programs: birth through grade 2**

Students wanting to teach in public or private school classrooms must select a degree program that leads to licensure. The program will be approved by the Illinois State Board of Education and explicitly prepares students to apply for a Professional Educator's License (PEL) from the State of Illinois.

- Licensure degrees are typically called Early Childhood Education or Professional Educator bachelor degrees.
- Due to the specific requirements of licensure programs, students are strongly advised to work closely with advisors at BHC and their selected transfer school early in their college planning. **BHC provides transfer information to Early Childhood Education licensure programs at <https://www.bhc.edu/academics/transfer-planning/planning-guides-and-agreements/>**

Illinois State University  
Northern Illinois University  
Western Illinois University

- Students who have not selected a transfer school elect to follow course recommendations from the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) Early Childhood Education Majors Panel at <https://itransfer.org/courses/majors/ece.php>. BHC courses recommended by the IAI ECE Majors Panel are:

IAI Code	Black Hawk course (credit hours) see the <a href="#">BHC catalog</a> for course descriptions
C1 900	ENG 101 or 101C Composition I (3)
C1 901R	ENG 102 Composition II (3)
C2 900	SPEC 101 Principles of Speech (3)
ECE 912	ECE 200 Growth & Devel. of Young Child (3)
(ECE 913)	EDUC 210 The Exceptional Child (3) *
(ECE 915)	ECE 222 Child, Family and Community (3) *
F1 900, or F2 900	MUSC 154 Music Appreciation (3), or ART 100 Art Appreciation (3)
H3 912	ENG 221 Survey of British Literature (3)
H3 915	ENG 214 Modern American Literature (3)
L1 900L, or L1 910L	BIOL 100 Introduction to Biology (4), or BIOL 105 General Biology I (5)
n/a	MATH 100 Math for Elem Teachers I (pre-req for MATH 200)
M1 903	MATH 200 Math for Elem Teachers II
(M1 903)	MATH 210 Math for Teaching and Learning (4) * <i>the prerequisite is MATH 112 College Algebra.</i> <b>COURSE ENDED SPRING 2024</b>
P1 900L, or P1 902L	PHYS 110 Introduction to Physics (4), or CHEM 110 Introduction to Chemistry (4)
P1 906L, or P1 906L	ASTR 101 Astronomy: The Solar System (4), or ASTR 102 Astronomy: Stars and Galaxies (4) <i>Teaching licensure requires Earth/Space science content which can be fulfilled with this third science course. The requirement could also be fulfilled after transfer where Geology, Geography or Meteorology courses may be offered.</i>
S2 900, or S2 901	HIST 105 US History to 1877 (3), or HIST 106 US History since 1877 (3)
S3 901, or S3 902	ECON 221 Principles of Macroeconomics (3), or ECON 222 Principles of Microeconomics (3)
S5 900	POLS 122 American National Government (3)
Various	To view BHC's IAI General Education Core Curriculum worksheet click <a href="#">here</a> . Scroll to the IAI section on the page.
Black Hawk College Notes	* BHC has not applied for IAI coding for this course; however, the course has been articulated to many Illinois universities which accept it for their education program. <b>Verify transferability with the transfer school before enrolling in the course.</b>
	Students should <u>not</u> take NSCI 101 or NSCI 102 to fulfill any of the science courses unless explicitly allowed by a transfer school's education program.

### **Non-licensure programs: birth to about age 8**

Non-licensure bachelor's degrees are for students who want to serve, study, or advocate for young children and their families but not teach. These degrees do not include classroom-based student teaching and may not include other requirements necessary for licensure. Non-licensure degrees can prepare students to provide social services, community-based family support, home visits and advocacy. Positions are available in fields such as mental health, juvenile justice, legislative services, research and other human service systems. For examples click [here](#).

- Non-licensure degrees have various names such as Early Childhood Studies, Early Childhood Practice, Infant Toddler Studies, Applied Educational Studies, Child Development, General Studies with a concentration or option in Early Childhood, etc.
- To choose courses, refer to the requirements of the specific degree at the transfer school you're interested in. Work with advisors to decide which courses can be taken at Black Hawk and that will transfer to your program. Begin your search for equivalent courses at [Transferology](#).

### **Another way to transfer**

Students typically start with the Associate in Arts (AA) degree then transfer to their bachelor program. However; it is possible to start with Black Hawk's career-oriented Early Childhood Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree.

View the transfer plan with National Louis University at

<https://www.bhc.edu/academics/transfer-to-a-four-year-school/all-transfer-options/national-louis-university/>

Additionally, the State of Illinois supports the AAS-to-Bachelor transfer path through the Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity act (ECACE). Black Hawk works with several Illinois universities so that career-oriented students who complete the AAS degree can also transfer and complete a bachelor degree.

For more information about ECACE, available degrees and available scholarships, visit:

<https://www.bhc.edu/academics/career-programs/early-childhood-education/#>

Eastern Illinois University  
 Illinois State University  
 National Louis University  
 Northern Illinois University  
 University of Illinois - Urbana Champaign  
 Western Illinois University

### **Connect with Black Hawk College staff and Early Childhood faculty**

#### **Advising**

Quad-Cities Campus  
 Building 1, Advising Center  
 Ph. 309-796-5100  
[ADVQC@bhc.edu](mailto:ADVQC@bhc.edu)

#### **Admissions**, including for high

school dual credit students  
 Ph. 309-796-5341  
[info@bhc.edu](mailto:info@bhc.edu)

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