

Additional Qualification Certificate – Integrated Program in Early Childhood Education

“In the best of Early Learning scenarios, all Prekindergarten (Kindergarten) teachers would have the essential knowledge about early childhood education, expert collaborative skills that extend children’s learning through their interests, and professional sensitivity to respond appropriately to children’s diversity and cultural background along with their families. Teacher openness to new understandings is crucial to providing high quality educational opportunities for children” (Krentz, 2011).

Currently in Saskatchewan, 65% of Prekindergarten and 72 per cent of Kindergarten assigned educators have no formal training in early childhood education. 55 per cent of Kindergarten educators and 59 per cent of Prekindergarten educators have 6 years or less experience in Kindergarten and Prekindergarten respectively (PreK Report, 2016 and K Report, 2017). The Ministry of Education, Early Years Branch and Saskatchewan Professional Development Unit offer professional development with a focus on early childhood education as a starting point to supplement educator’s knowledge and experience with a wide selection of learning opportunities.

In addition to professional development opportunities for obtaining the specialized knowledge there are also formal learning options that can support teachers for increased compensation. The Saskatchewan Professional Teachers’ Regulatory Board (SPTRB) is responsible for teacher certification and registrations.

Post-Secondary Options:

1. Master of Education with a specialization in Early Childhood Education is currently available through University of Saskatchewan or University of Regina. There are also several Canadian Universities now offering a Master’s degree in Early Childhood Education using an on-line format.
2. Additional Qualification Certificate (Integrated Program) 30 credit hours of which 15 credit hours would need to meet the following four specified course areas. (See attached information sheet).

Specified Course Areas for Approved Integrated Program

Specified Course Areas in Early Childhood Education	Minimum Post-Secondary Credit Hours
Area 1: Child Development	3
Area 2: Early Learning Pedagogy	6
Area 3: Relationships	3
Area 4: Assessment Literacy	3
Approved Courses towards an Approved Integrated Program for Early Childhood Education	Minimum Credit Hours
Identify 5 additional 3 credit hour courses	15

The courses can be obtained from a variety of accredited institutions, in accordance with Saskatchewan Professional Teachers Regulatory Board (SPTRB).

The courses need to be pre-approved in advance by SPTRB as part of the process to build an Approved Integrated Program Plan. A list of approved courses has been created in collaboration with SPTRB. For more information on the Additional Qualification Certification visit the Saskatchewan Professional Teachers Regulatory Board website at:

http://www.sptrb.ca/web/SPTRB/Certification_and_Registration/Types_of_Certificates/SPTRB/Certification_and_Registration/Types_of_Certificates.aspx?hkey=b51383a9-810d-44e0-8568-53dd4a730051#aqcline

Saskatchewan Professional Teachers Regulatory Board

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Specified Course Area Descriptions

1. Child Development (3 credit hours)

Child Development describes children's competencies in all domains of learning, social-emotional, intellectual, spiritual and physical, are viewed as developing along a continuum marked by the milestones of a typical developmental sequence (*Essential Learning Experiences*, 2014, 5-7).

2. Early Learning Pedagogy (6 credit hours)

Early Learning Pedagogy is the application of the principles of early learning, the approaches and the instructional strategies used by educators to promote children's holistic learning and development. Educators create plans to provide intentional and responsive environments that provide inquiry, play-based experiences through which the learning will take place.

3. Relationships (3 credit hours)

Relationships exist not only between people and the environment, but also among ideas, theories and belief systems. Educators understand that relationships are opportunities for children to create a sense of self, identity and belonging while learning about the world around them (*Children First: A Resource for Kindergarten*, 2009, p. 3).

4. Assessment Literacy (3 credit hours)

Educators develop an understanding of assessment by collecting evidence of learning, documenting the learning process, recording evidence of children's learning to plan and inform practices and to report children's learning to families (*Children First: A Resource for Kindergarten*, 2009, p.13). Using assessment evidence assists educators in developing appropriate responses for children.

Canadian Universities offering on-line graduate studies in Early Childhood Education:

University of British Columbia

Master of Education in Early Childhood Education Online (Med EC17)

<https://www.grad.ubc.ca/prospective-students/graduate-degree-programs/master-of-education-early-childhood-education>

University of Victoria – British Columbia

Master's Program in Early Childhood Education (MED ECE) is offered through three summer sessions (July only) and two Fall/Winter sessions (Sept – April). The Fall/Winter courses are online.

<https://www.uvic.ca/education/curriculum/graduate/programs/ece/index.php>

University of Calgary - Alberta

Master of Education: interdisciplinary route with focus on Early Childhood Education. Can be taken as a Graduate Certificate or Graduate Diploma. Early Childhood is offered fully online.

<https://werklund.ucalgary.ca/gpe/early-childhood-education>

University of Alberta

Faculty of Education offers a post degree certificate in Early Childhood Education.

<https://www.ualberta.ca/elementary-education/early-childhood-education-certificate-program>

Colleges offering on-line Early Learning and Child Care Certificates or Diplomas

Lakeland College - Alberta

<http://www.lakelandcollege.ca/academics/online-and-blended-learning/programs-and-courses/early-learning-childcare/>

Red River College - Manitoba

Science of Early Childhood Development – Child Development Primer – Introduction

<https://www.scienceofecd.com/>

Northern Lights College – British Columbia

<http://www.nlc.bc.ca/Programs/All-Programs-Alphabetical/Early-Childhood-Education-and-Care-Diploma>

Eligible courses offered at post-secondary institutions in Saskatchewan

(Contact Institutions for Course Delivery methodology and frequency)

Institution	Child Development	Relationships	Early Learning Pedagogy	Assessment Literacy
University of Regina	ECE 200 Teaching & Learning in PreK to grade 5	EC&I 814 (grad) Critical Perspectives on Preschool Education	ECE 445 Introduction to Preschool Settings	EC&I 812 (Grad) Assessing Experiential Learning
	ECE 325 Experiential Learning for Young Children		ECE 400 Contemporary Perspectives & Challenges in Early Childhood Education	
	ECE 435 Curricular Implications of Play		ECE 425 Contemporary Perspectives in ECE	
	EC&I 813 (Grad) Play and Learning			
Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies (SIIT)	DEVL 141 Child Development 1	GUID 131 Communicating with Children & Guiding Children's Behaviour	PLAY 119 Introduction to Play	
			CURC 120 Foundations of Curriculum Planning	
			CARE 122 The Learning Environment	
			DESN 121 Curriculum Design & Implementation	

Institution	Child Development	Relationships	Early Learning Pedagogy	Assessment Literacy
Saskatchewan Polytechnic	HUMD 100 Child and Adolescent Development	COMM 294 Teamwork Skills	ECE 100 Introduction to Early Childhood Education	ECE 181 Observation of Children
		ECE 220 Anti-Bias Education in Early Childhood	ECE 103 Programming for Language Development	ECE 221 Observation and Assessment
		HUMD 183 Child Guidance 1	ECE 104 Programming for Cognitive Development	
		HUMD 200 Child Guidance 2	ECE 106 Role of Play	
			ECE 201 Program Planning for ECE programs	
Collège Mathieu	DEV112 Le développement global de la personne	REL111 Profession : Intervenants en petite enfance I	PRO113 Fondements du programme éducatif en petite enfance I	STA114 Stage pratique I
	DEV123 Santé, sécurité, alimentation et vie active	REL121 La communication sous toutes ses formes	PRO124 L'action éducative auprès des enfants de 3-5 ans	STA125 Stage pratique II
		REL122 L'intervention éducative auprès des enfants		