

# Glossary

## Articulation

Articulation is the linking together of programs, facilities, and campuses and segments in order to allow normal progression and a smooth transition through the educational system and to maintain continuity in the student's academic program.

## Basic Skills Courses

Basic Skills Courses are defined as courses that enable an individual to enhance his/her skills in order to successfully complete college-level coursework. Examples of basic skills courses include:

- English as a Second Language (ESL)
- Basic Math
- Computer Literacy Skills
- Reading/Writing Skills

## California Department of Education/ Child Development Division

The California Department of Education: Child Development Division (COD) administers the state's subsidized child care and development programs. CCD has over 1,000 contracts of more than a dozen program types with both public and private agencies throughout the state. [www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd](http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd)

## California Department of Social Services/ Community Care Licensing

The California Department of Social Services/Community Care Licensing is a state government agency that is responsible for the licensing of child care centers and family child care homes. <http://ccld.ca.gov>

## California FIRST 5 Commission

The California Children and Families Act of 1998 established the FIRST 5 Commission, which is designed to provide, on a community-by-community basis, all children prenatal to five years of age with a comprehensive, integrated system of early childhood development services. [www.cafc.ca.gov](http://www.cafc.ca.gov)

## Campus Child Development

Campus Child Development programs are administered through the State Department of Education, and are primarily for the children of students enrolled in college.

## Certificate

A certificate refers to written documentation of the completion of a set of educational or hourly requirements in a specific area of expertise. Several certificate programs are available for early childhood students and staff who wish to develop further in specific areas such as Family Child Care, Infant Toddler Development, or Administration of Children's Programs. A certificate is established and issued by individual colleges, and is not a substitute for a permit, a credential, or a degree.

## Child Development (CD) Coursework

Child Development (CD) courses are those courses that are designed to prepare students for a career working with children age birth through adolescence.

## Child Development Permit

A Child Development Permit refers to any level of child development permit issued by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) after February 1, 1997. The Child Development Permit has multiple levels, which recognizes career steps within the early childhood profession.

[www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/CREDS/child-dev-permits.html](http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/CREDS/child-dev-permits.html)

## Child Development Permit Matrix

The California Department of Education requires each staff person employed by a publicly funded child development program to maintain a current permit in the care, development, and instruction of children enrolled in the program. There are six permit levels; each level is based on educational requirements set forth by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC): 1) Assistant Teacher Permit; 2) Associate Teacher Permit; 3) Teacher Permit; 4) Master Teacher Permit; 5) Site Supervisor Permit; and 6) Program Director Permit. *The CARES stipend eligibility requirements for Santa Clara County are based on the California Child Development Permit matrix.*

**Child Development Training Consortium (CDTC)** The Child Development Training Consortium (CDTC), funded by the State Department of Education and the FIRST 5 California, supports the professional development of the early childhood profession through a number of initiatives including grants for child development permit processing fees, career incentive grants, a community college program, and a professional growth advisor project. [www.childdevelopment.org](http://www.childdevelopment.org)

## Children with Special Needs

The California FIRST 5 Commission defines children with disabilities and other special needs as those children who: 1) are protected by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA); or 2) have or are at risk for a chronic condition whether physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional and who also require educational, developmental, health, behavioral/mental health, and related services and/or supports of a type or amount beyond that required generally.

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### **Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC)**

The California Commission on Teacher Credentialing is a state government agency that sets standards and issues credentials for the education professions in California. This includes credentials for those who wish to be employed in the public schools, in K-12 settings, in adult education settings, and in state-funded preschool programs. [www.ctc.ca.gov](http://www.ctc.ca.gov)

### **Continuing Education Unit (CEU) - Extension Units A**

Continuing Education Unit (CEU) is a credit given at training or through a college's Continuing Education Department. CEUs are counted only as professional development hours.

### **CORE Courses**

CORE courses are defined as courses that include foundational knowledge and skills in early childhood education. These CORE courses provide a basis for all other Early Childhood Education (ECE) courses.

- Child, Growth and Development
- Child, Family, and Community or Child and Family Relations
- Programs and Curriculum

*Each CORE course must be a minimum of 3 semester units or 4-quarter units.*

### **Desired Results**

Desired Results for Children and Families is a system by which educators can document the progress made by children and families in achieving desired results and by which they can retrieve information to help practitioners improve child care and development services.

The purpose of the Desired Results projects is to develop and implement age-level performance standards and family outcomes standards for programs funded by the California Department of Education (CDE). The CDE, Child Development Division (CD D), has revised its approach to evaluating the child care and development services it provides to move away from a process-oriented compliance model and towards a focus on the results desired from the system. This approach is compatible with CDE's accountability system for elementary and secondary education. The desired results for children encompass the four developmental domains, i.e., cognitive, social-emotional, language, and physical development, which are reflected and integrated throughout the indicators, measures, and examples of the measures.

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/ci/desiredresults.asp>

### **Early Childhood Education (ECE) Courses**

Early Childhood Education (ECE) courses are those courses that are designed to prepare students for a career working with children age birth through age eight. Some of these courses can be also applied for working with school age children.

### **Early Educator**

The term early educator is used to refer to an early childhood professional working in a licensed center-based or family-based early education program.

**English as a Second Language (ESL) Courses** English as a Second Language (ESL) courses are those courses in which each student receives intensive assistance in learning English with instructional support in their first language.

### **Environment Rating Scale (ECERS)**

The Environment Rating Scales are tools created by Thelma Harms and colleagues to provide a reliable measure for assessing early learning environments.

The scales can be used for self-assessment by center and family child care staff, for accreditation preparation, and for program improvement, or by external evaluators. There are four age/environment-appropriate scales:

- Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale (ECERS-R);
- Infant/Toddler Environment Rating Scale (ITERS-R);
- Family Day Care Rating Scale (FDCRS);
- School-Age Care Environment Rating Scale (SACERS)

### **Family Child Care (FCC)**

Family Child Care refers to care in a family setting.

An early childhood professional may care for up to six or eight children in the professional's home (small family child care homes). Large family child care homes may care for up to 12 or 14 children. Family child care homes must be licensed by the California Department of Social Services/ Community Care Licensing Division. <http://www.cclcd.ca.gov>

### **FIRST 5 Santa Cruz County**

The FIRST 5 Santa Cruz County Commission provides leadership and resources to build and maintain a community-wide network of support for children prenatal through age 5 and their families. A local FIRST 5 Commission has been established in each county throughout the state of California. [www.first5kids.org](http://www.first5kids.org)

### **General Education (GE)**

General Education refers to coursework from a regionally accredited institution of higher education in subject areas other than early childhood education and/or child development. GE courses are courses for the permit requirements are in the following 4 areas that also meet college graduation requirements: 1) English; 2) Math or Science; 3) Social Science; and 4) Humanities.

### **Head Start Program**

Head Start is a comprehensive preschool program that prepares children to enter school ready to learn. Head Start combines basic skills development with health, nutrition, social services, and parental involvement in a family-centered approach endorsed by parents and child experts alike. At Head Start programs, children from low-income families, who otherwise would not be able to afford a comprehensive preschool programs, develop the skills and confidence that increase their chances for success in school.

### **Infant**

An infant is a child between the ages of birth and 12 months, birth and 18 months, or birth and two years, depending on the defining body.

### **Licensed Program**

A licensed program is a center-based program or family child care program that has a current operating license issued by the California Department of Social Services/Community Care Licensing Division.  
<http://cclcd.ca.gov>

### **National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC)**

The focus of NAFCC is to provide technical assistance to family child care associations. This assistance is provided through developing leadership and professionalism, addressing issues of diversity, and by promoting quality and professionalism through NAFCC's Family Child Care Accreditation program.  
[www.naeyc.org](http://www.naeyc.org)

### **National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)**

The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) is the nation's largest and most influential organization of early childhood educators and others dedicated to improving the quality of programs for children from birth through third grade. NAEYC works to improve professional practice and working conditions in early childhood education and to build public support for high quality early childhood programs. NAEYC offers an accreditation program for center-based and family child care programs. [www.naeyc.org](http://www.naeyc.org)  
The state affiliate is the California Association for the Education of Young Children. [www.caeyc.org](http://www.caeyc.org)

### **Nationally Accredited College or University**

Course work only from colleges and universities that have achieved accreditation through one of the following six-accreditation bodies in the United States is accepted for permit and public college transfer credit:  
Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools  
New England Association of Schools and Colleges  
North Central Association of Colleges and Schools  
Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities  
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools  
Western Association of Schools and Colleges  
For more information, please visit  
[www.utexas.edu/world/univ](http://www.utexas.edu/world/univ)

### **Original Transcripts**

An "ORIGINAL" transcript is defined as a transcript that is issued by the Registrar's Office, has an embossed seal, and has an original signature. Original transcripts do not have to be sealed. Printouts from the Internet, grade reports, and progress reports are often not accepted.

### **Post Secondary**

Postsecondary refers to educational programs that serve students after the high school or K-12 grades. Colleges and universities are included in the postsecondary category.

### **Preschooler**

A preschooler is a child from three through five years of age, depending on the defining body.

### **Professional Development**

(Also referred to as Professional Growth)

Professional development is defined as participation in activities that contribute to a professional's competence, performance, or effectiveness in the early childhood profession. Such activities may include but are not limited to college or university coursework, conferences, workshops, institutes, academies, symposia, and staff development programs. Documentation of professional development includes an official certificate from each activity. If a certificate is not available, a signature from the trainer or representative of the sponsoring agency will be accepted.

### **Professional Growth Advisor**

A Professional Growth Advisor is an individual who meets the requirements outlined by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) and who advises permit holders regarding their professional growth and development.  
[www.childdevelopment.org](http://www.childdevelopment.org)

### **Program Accreditation**

Program accreditation is an extensive evaluation process, aimed at improving program quality. Examples of accrediting organizations for early education programs are the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), and the National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC).  
[www.naeyc.org](http://www.naeyc.org) or [www.nafcc.org](http://www.nafcc.org)

### **Regional Occupational Programs (ROP/ROC)**

Regional Occupational Programs/Centers offer a wide range of courses for high school age students and adults. High school students attend concurrently with high school attendance so that they are able to learn a trade while earning a high school diploma. Programs are designed to give specific skills for employment and to meet local labor market conditions. One of the programs is early childhood education. ROP programs in some counties have articulation agreements with community colleges so that students may receive college credit for ROP courses taken in high school. Students are required to take additional college courses in order to receive credit for course work completed in ROP programs.

### **School Age Program**

A school age program is a program that provides for the education and care of children in grades kindergarten and above when school is not in session.

### **Semester Units versus Quarter Units**

All of the colleges in the region surrounding Santa Cruz County operate on a semester system, with the exception of De Anza College (a community college) and UCSC. Classes offered on the quarter system are shorter in duration than those offered on the semester system. Therefore, quarter units and semester units are not equivalent.

Coursework that has been completed on the quarter system will be converted to semester units using the following formula:

**# Quarter units multiplied by .67 = # Semester units.**

1 quarter unit = .67 semester units

3 quarter units = 2.01 semester units

6 quarter units = 4.02 semester units

### **Specialization Courses**

Specialization Courses must be 6 semester units beyond the required 24 ECE units. Specialization courses must be in the same area. Examples of Specializations include:

Infant and Toddler Care

- Bilingual and Bicultural Development
- Children with Exceptional Needs
- Pre-K specialist
- Parent Teacher Relations
- Child Health
- Curriculum Specialist

*Please refer to the college for more information on specializations.*

### **State-Subsidized Program**

A state-subsidized program is a child development program that holds a current contract with the California Department of Education/Child Development Division and receives funds to provide services to children from low-income and high need families.

### **Supervised Field Experience**

Supervised Field Experience refers to instruction performed in an early childhood program for college credit, which is supervised by a person approved by a regionally accredited institution of higher education. Supervised Field Experience is also referred to as a *practicum*.

#### **Title 5**

Title 5 of the Administrative Code of California contains duly authorized regulations pertaining to education. Regulations for state funded early childhood programs are contained within this code section. <http://www.cde.ca.gov> (You have to click on California Code of Regulations to see the page you wish to review.)

#### **Title 22**

Title 22 of the Administrative Code of California contains duly authorized regulations pertaining to social services. Regulations for the licensing of all early childhood centers and family child care programs are contained within this code section. <http://government.westlaw.com/linked/slicef>

#### **Toddler**

A toddler is a child between the ages of 12 months and 36 months, depending on the defining body.

### **Transcript Evaluation**

Individuals who have completed college or university coursework at an institution in a country other than the U.S. must obtain a complete evaluation of their international transcripts, degrees, and other relevant documents prior to applying for a CARES stipend. The web site indicated below provides a listing of Foreign Transcript Evaluation that are accepted by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC). The CARES program will accept international transcripts and degrees only if they have been evaluated from one of the services accepted by the CTC.

[www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/cl635.html](http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/cl635.html)

### **Transcript Translation**

Individuals who have completed college or university coursework at an institution in a country other than the U.S. must have their transcripts translated into English in addition to having them evaluated for their U.S. equivalency. Please note that transcript translation is different from transcript evaluation.

### **Western Association of Schools and Colleges**

The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) is one of six regional associations that accredit public and private schools, colleges, and universities in the United States. A listing of California colleges and universities that are accredited through WASC may be found at this site:

[www.wascweb.org](http://www.wascweb.org)

