COMMUNITY-BASED EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
Non-Licensure

Bachelor of Arts in Education and Human Development (B.A.)
Catalog Year 2026 - 2027

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Community-based Early Childhood Education (ECE) track in the Education & Human Development BA focuses on the passion and commitment CU Denver students must work in diverse community-based early childhood education settings supporting children ages birth-5 and their families. The program is designed for students who currently work in these settings or intend to be employed in a community-based early childhood context before they graduate. A core principle of this pathway is the accessibility of the BA to working early childhood professionals and to those with several years of prior experience in birth-to-five classrooms. This 120-credit hour track is ideal for students who currently and/or intend to work in community-based early childhood environments that serve children from infancy to age five years or as paraprofessionals. Courses include field-based experiences that can take place in settings where students currently work. Students fulfill the Colorado Department of Human Services Director Qualification requirements.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

The School of Education & Human Development (SEHD) requires all students to meet with their Academic Advisor several times a year to develop and learn more about their own individualized plan of study.

Phone: (303)315-6300
Email: SEHDAcademicservices@ucdenver.edu
Website: www.ucdenver.edu/education

GENERAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

To receive a bachelor's degree from the University of Colorado Denver, students must satisfy all of the requirements below, in addition to completing a Major and fulfilling all of their School or College requirements.

1. A minimum of 120 credit hours is required to graduate from CU Denver with a bachelor's level degree.
2. A minimum 2.000 cumulative GPA is required for all University of Colorado coursework.
3. Satisfactory completion of the CU Denver Core Curriculum.

In addition to the general university graduation requirements listed above, all SEHD students are required to complete the following minimum general graduation requirements:

1. Students must earn a final grade of at least a C (2.0) in major courses and a B- (2.7) or above in designated major courses and field-based courses and internships within the major. These courses/requirements must be repeated if the student fails to earn the grade required.
2. Students must complete required classroom-based field experiences.
3. Students must complete all program assessments and professional milestones as outlined in the Student Handbook.
4. Students must complete all requirements associated with their SEHD major.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

Students are responsible for meeting with the academic advisor in the School of Education & Human Development to confirm major requirements. Students completing the Education and Human Development BA degree in Community-Based Early Childhood Education (EDHD – Community-Based Early Childhood Education) must meet the minimum program requirements listed below.

1. Students must complete a total of 120 semester hours for the EDHD – Community-Based Early Childhood Education Non-Licensure Track
2. A minimum GPA of 2.0, grade of C or better, is required for all courses applying to EDHD – Community-Based Early Childhood requirements unless otherwise specified.
3. Transfer courses must be approved by faculty and/or advisor to apply to the major.

School of Education & Human Development

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS & POLICIES

Students are responsible for meeting with the academic advisor in the School of Education & Human Development to confirm major requirements. Students completing the Education and Human Development BA degree is Early Childhood Education (Community-Based Track) are required to complete the minimum program requirements below.

1. Students must complete a total of 120 semester hours for the EDHD – Community-Based Early Childhood Education
2. A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required for identified major coursework.
3. Transfer courses must be approved by faculty and/or advisor to apply to the major.

Courses	Credits	Notes
* Course prerequisites change regularly. Students are responsible for consulting advisors and the class schedule in the student portal for prerequisite information. *		
Required CU Denver Core Curriculum Requirements	34	*CU Denver Core Curriculum Requirements*
EDHD – Early Childhood Education (Non-Licensure) Requirements	59	
HDFR 2110 Child Ecology or HDFR 1010 Lifespan Dev in Eco Settings	3	
CLDE 2000 Foundations of Culturally & Linguistically Diverse Edu	3	*Minimum grade of B- required*
ECED 2000 Early Childhood Education as a Profession	3	
ECED 4060 Working with Families, Professionals, and Communities	3	*Prerequisite: 27+ credit hours completed*
ECED 2030 Nutrition, Health, and Safety	3	*Prerequisite: 27+ credit hours completed*
ECED 4040 Leading Early Childhood Programs	3	
ECED 4650 Dual Language Learners Learning and Development	3	
ECED 4102 Develop Appropriate Curriculum Methods and Techniques	3	
ECED 1202 Child Guidance and Classroom Community	3	
ECED 4010 or ECED 4340 or ECED 4800	3	
ECED 4300 Disability & Inclusion in ECE	3	*Minimum grade of B- required*
LCRT 2000 or LCRT 3815	3	
Clinical Field Experience Block: Community-Based		† *Clinical Field Experience Block*
EDHD 1930 Community-Based Field Experience & Seminar I	3	† *Clinical Field Experience Block * Minimum grade of B- required*
Clinical Field Experience Block: Infants & Toddlers		*Prerequisites: EDHD 1930;* † *Clinical Field Experience Block*
ECED 2935 Infant / Toddler Field Experience & Seminar	3	† *Clinical Field Experience Block*
ECED 3110 Development of Infants & Toddler	3	† *Clinical Field Experience Block*
Clinical Field Experience Block: Learning & Development		*Prerequisites: EDHD 1930;* † *Clinical Field Experience Block*
EDHD 2930 Learning & Development Field Experience & Seminar	3	† *Clinical Field Experience Block *Minimum grade of B- required*
ECED 4200 Observation, Screening and Assessment of YC	3	† *Clinical Field Experience Block*
Final Field Experience		*Prerequisites: EDHD 2930, ECED 2930, permission to add; consult with advisor*
ECED 4933 Internship III & Collaborative Learning Community	8	*Taken in two semesters at 4 credits, for a total of 8 credits* *Minimum grade of B- required*
Estimated General Electives	27	
Total Program Hours:	**120**	

† **Clinical Field Experience Block:**
- If you are not currently employed, you can enroll in coursework and be placed in volunteer field experiences for ECED 2930. Students must be employed in an ECE birth-5 context by the time they enroll in EDHD 2930 (typically in the junior year) and during their final senior year of internships.
- All courses in a clinical field experience block must be taken together, in the same semester
- Field experience paperwork deadlines:
  - o Fall placement = 4/1 Priority deadline: 4/15 Final deadline
  - o Spring placement = 11/1 Priority deadline; 11/15 Final deadline

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SAMPLE ACADEMIC PLAN OF STUDY

The following academic plan is a *sample* pathway to completing degree requirements for this major. Students should tailor this plan based on previously completed college coursework (e.g., AP, IB, CLEP, dual/concurrent enrollment, and transfer credit), course availability, and individual preferences related to course load, schedules, or add-on programs such as minors or double majors. **Students deviating from this plan must fulfill course prerequisites and must meet with the academic advisor in their department to confirm degree requirements.**

Note: Many required courses are also available in summer semesters.

Year One

Fall	CRS
ENGL 1020 – Core Composition I	3
CU Denver Core Humanities	3
ECED 2000	3
ECED 1202	3
CLDE 2000 / SEHD Learning Community	3
General Elective – UNIV 1110 / SEHD Learning Community	1
Total Credit Hours	**16**

Spring	CRS
ENGL 2030 – Core Composition II	3
CU Denver Core Arts	3
ECED 2030	3
LCRT 2000 or LCRT 3815	3
Clinical Field Experience: Community-Based	
ECED 1930	3
Total Credit Hours	**15**

Year Two

Fall	CRS
HDFR 2110 or HDFR 1010	3
CU Denver Core Mathematics—Math 1010 recommended	3
ECED 4060	3
Clinical Field Experience Block: Infants & Toddlers	
ECED 2935	3
ECED 3110	3
Total Credit Hours	**15**

Spring	CRS
General Elective	3
CU Denver Core Behavioral Science	3
CU Denver Core Nat/Phys Science with lab	4
ECED 4102	3
CU Denver Core Nat/Phys Science without lab	3
Total Credit Hours	**16**

Year Three

Fall	CRS
ECED 4650	3
ECED 4040	3
CU Denver Core Social Sciences	3
General Elective	3
CU Denver Core International Perspectives	3
Total Credit Hours	**15**

Spring	CRS
CU Denver Core Cultural Diversity	3
General Elective	3
General Elective	3
Clinical Field Experience Block: Learning & Development	
EDHD 2930	3
ECED 4200	3
Total Credit Hours	**15**

Year Four

Fall	CRS
ECED 4010 or 4340 or 4800	3
ECED 4933	4
General Elective	3
General Elective	3
General Elective	2
Total Credit Hours	**15**

Spring	CRS
ECED 4933	4
ECED 4300 or SPED 4030	3
General Elective	3
General Elective	3
Total Credit Hours	**13**