

Attention KCC Early Childhood Education Majors

ILLINOIS EARLY CHILDHOOD ACCESS CONSORTIUM FOR EQUITY ACT

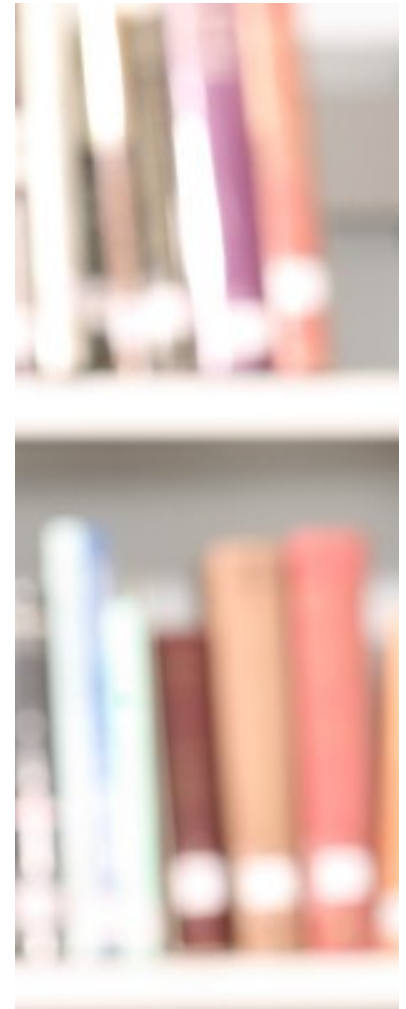
PUBLIC ACT 102-0174

EFFECTIVE AS OF JULY 28, 2021

If you have completed or are pursuing an AAS in ECED-Education (Associate in Applied Science) from KCC, you have a seamless pathway to a baccalaureate degree at **all public** (and some private) **universities** in the State of Illinois.

Public Act 102-0174, Section 130-10 makes four components clear:

- ◆ When a student earns a Gateways ECE Credential Level 4 as part of the KCC AAS degree in ECED/ Early Childhood Education, they are **deemed eligible** for transfer into an ECE baccalaureate program at a public university **with junior status**. Student must have earned a minimum grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- ◆ Universities **may not require** students transferring to **repeat courses** taken and completed successfully at the community college.
- ◆ All courses completed successfully in the AAS degree program **must count toward** baccalaureate degree



KCC Early Childhood
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More Options to Consider:

There will be significant scholarships available for students who are employees/incumbent workers of early childhood programs. If you are pursuing a career in ECE, you might consider part time employment in a child care center while attending college coursework to become eligible for these scholarships.

Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity (ECACE) Scholarship – Details and Application Coming Soon!



Are you currently working in the field of early childhood, such as in a child care center, family child care, Head Start or other ECE program? If YES this is for you... If NO then consider getting a job in child care while you pursue your degree, it will pay off in MANY ways! Read On!

Members of the early childhood education workforce who are seeking credentials and/or a degree in early childhood education may be eligible for the new Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity (ECACE) Scholarship Program, launching this fall. Program information, eligibility details, and an online application will be available **NOW** via the Illinois Student Assistance Commission at **www.isac.org**.

If you'd like to be considered, you do not need to wait for the ECACE Scholarship Application to be available to get started. In addition to the ECACE Scholarship Application, applicants will be required to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®), or FAFSA at **fafsa.gov** for the same academic year that they are applying for the scholarship, so you can get started now.

If you haven't filed an online FAFSA before, you will first need to create an FSA ID at studentaid.gov/fsa-id to use as your electronic signature. Once you access the online FAFSA and log in, you will be asked to choose the school year for which you will be completing the FAFSA. This will need to be the same year as the ECACE application you are submitting. For example, if you are applying to receive the ECACE Scholarship during this year (the 2021-22 academic year), you must also select the 2021-22 FAFSA when given the option after logging in.



Are You Looking to Begin Your ECE Career While you are a Student and Take Advantage of these Scholarships?

Child Care Centers and Head Start programs in our area are hiring KCC ECED students for part time and full time positions.

In addition, you could find programs located near you by searching the Illinois Excelerate ECE database at <https://www.excelerateillinois.com/provider-search>