

November 30, 2022

Dear Early Childhood Education Post-Secondary Partners:

To reduce barriers for early childhood educators (ECEs) working in the sector to access training, the Department is pleased to announce an amendment to our [Standards for Early Childhood Education Post-Secondary Programs](#) (*Standards*). We are removing the criterion that students who wish to complete practicums in their workplace must have “two years of full-time employment (minimum of 1080 hours per year) at the time of enrollment in the program” (p. 10).

Removing this criterion means that staff who are newer to the sector (working in licensed child care or Pre-primary programs) can also participate in workplace practicums, reducing impacts to personal income and employers’ staffing needs. To participate in workplace practicums, students must still meet all other criteria as outlined in the Standards, including current employment in a licensed child care centre or pre-primary program that has the capacity to support an employee/student on practicum. Post-secondary institutions are responsible to ensure adherence to all other workplace practicum criteria as set out in the Standards.

We look forward to our continued work together to build a strong and highly qualified ECE workforce.

Sincerely,



Nancy Baroni,
Director, Early Childhood Development and Transformation