



# Early Childhood Education Diploma

## Pathways Option: For Newcomers to Canada residing in Nova Scotia

### Tuition Free – Starts Sept 2024

**Start date:** September 2024

**Typical length:** 3.5 years

**Credential:** Diploma

**Location:** eCampus (online asynchronous)

#### Learn while you work:

The Pathways option is for **newcomers to Canada** who **reside in Nova Scotia** and are **currently working** or **want to work** as an Early Childhood Educator (ECE) in a licensed childcare centre or pre-primary program.

#### Program Overview:

The Pathways option is **part-time** and includes the following:

- **English Language Readiness Module:** Before starting the ECE diploma courses, you will spend 16 weeks focusing on your English language skills in an online learning module.
- **Language Proficiency:** When you start the program, you must be able to demonstrate a **Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB) 6** level. By the end of the ECE program, you must be at a **CLB 8** level.
- **Flexible Learning:** The program is **asynchronous online**, meaning there are **no fixed class times**. You can learn when it suits you best. Courses will follow a **prescribed schedule**.
- **PLAR (Prior Learning and Recognition):** If you already have prior learning and work experience as an ECE, you may receive credit for it through our PLAR process.

#### Admission requirements:

- High School Graduation Diploma or equivalent.
- Be a **newcomer** to Nova Scotia. An immigrant or refugee with protected person status with **legal permanent resident status**, or a recent **Canadian citizen**, who has lived in Canada for **less than 5 years** (a temporary foreign worker, an international student, or persons in Canada on a temporary resident visa is not eligible)
- Have a minimum of a **Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB) 6** or higher level in all categories by the start of the program.
- Be **currently employed** or **seeking employment** in Nova Scotia in a licensed child care centre or pre-primary program.
- Be able to work a **minimum of 15 hours** per week while in the ECE program with the ability to complete work experiences in your place of work.

**Priority admission** will be given to those who have completed the Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia (ISANS) **Bridging the Gap** program.

#### Funding:

Tuition, student fees, textbooks and other program cost are fully covered through funding from the **Department of Education and Early Childhood Development**.

## Questions? Contact us:

Alana Wiens, Academic Chair

[ece.eal@nsc.ca](mailto:ece.eal@nsc.ca)

[ednet.ns.ca/ece/excellence/pathway-programs](http://ednet.ns.ca/ece/excellence/pathway-programs)

**nsc**

  
**NOVA SCOTIA**  
**NOUVELLE-ÉCOSSE**