



Early Childhood Education Diploma

Work and Learn Offering: For Designated Counties in Nova Scotia

Online Option
Tuition Free – Start November 2025

Start date: November 2025
Typical length: 22-24 months
Credential: Diploma
Location: eCampus (online asynchronous)



Scan the QR code to
complete the prescreening
form to check your
eligibility:

Learn while you work:

The **Work and Learn** Early Childhood Education (ECE) Program allows Early Childhood Educators the opportunity to **work in a licensed child care centre or pre-primary program** in Nova Scotia while earning an Early Childhood Education diploma at NSCC.

Program Overview:

The Work and Learn ECE program will provide students the knowledge and skills necessary for **working with infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and school-age children** in a variety of settings.

As an **online program**, you can work and learn simultaneously. This program is asynchronous online, meaning there are no set class times. You can learn and engage with the course material when it works best for you. There will be opportunities to engage with your instructor and classmates in weekly discussions online. Each course follows a set start and end date, with assignment due dates provided by your instructor.

The ECE Work and Learn program **combines both theory and practice**. Work experience requirements are completed in your workplace.

After successful completion of your ECE diploma, students can apply for **Level 2 Classification** under the Early Learning and Child Care Act and Regulations.

Admission and Program Requirements:

- **High School** Graduation Diploma or equivalent.
- Be a Nova Scotia resident who is **recently employed (12 months or less) or guaranteed employment** in a licensed child care centre or pre-primary program in one of the following counties: Antigonish, Guysborough, Victoria, Inverness, Lunenburg, Pictou, Queens or Richmond.
- Be working a minimum **15 hours per week** as an ECE in a licensed childcare centre or pre-primary program.
- Be a **Canadian Citizen or Permanent Resident** of Canada. Students with a high school diploma from outside of Canada may be required to provide English Language proficiency documentation. Requirements vary by country. [View document and language requirements here.](#)

Funding:

Tuition, student fees, textbooks and other program cost are **fully covered** by contributions received through the Canada-Nova Scotia Early Learning and Child care Agreement coordinated by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

Questions? Contact us:

Alana Wiens, Academic Chair
ecework.learn@nsc.ca