

Director Credential

ONLINE ONLY



Course Descriptions (3 credits each)

ECH 564 The Business of Child Care

Designed specifically for directors of child care centers seeking a director credential from the Pennsylvania Keys to Professional Development with the Office of Child Development and Early Learning. Students will critically reflect on current business practices. Topics will include strategic planning, fiscal management, risk management, policy development, communication and conflict resolution, and grant writing. (This course is required for the PA Directors Credential.)

ECH 563 Leadership in Early Childhood Education

Designed to prepare personnel to function in the role of administrator of early childhood programs. Examines types of early childhood programs and their underlying rationales, ways of establishing early childhood programs, methods of funding and financing programs, and considers the coordinating role of the administrator in working with other personnel.

TCH 575 Advanced Child Development

Stresses the results of scientific studies which are used to examine cognitive, physical, and social processes in child development from birth to pre-adolescence with an emphasis placed on the early years. Influence of child's environment, home, and school are explored.

ECH 460 Family, School and Community Partnerships in Early Childhood Education

Surveys current and continuing issues in early childhood education. Includes child care, pre-primary programs and parent involvement, implementing a parent involvement project, and an individual study of a particular development area and/or processes.

ECH 565 Health and Safety Practices in Early Childhood

Stresses assessment of national health and safety standards for early childhood programs, as well as the development and evaluation of educational programs designed to improve the health and safety outcomes of young children and their families. Students will learn best practices in measuring program outcomes as a critical part of overall program evaluation. While the focus is on health and safety, skills learned in developing a program outcome model will be directly applicable to overall program development and evaluation as funders are increasingly requesting outcome measurement as part of grant application.

ECH 577 Early Childhood Curriculum and Assessment

Investigates contemporary curricular issues, model programs, and appropriate forms of assessment of young children. Curriculum, teaching strategies, and program organization and evaluation decisions are analyzed from the viewpoints of current theory and research.

For More Information

Director Credential Program

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General information regarding registration, payment, and online education

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M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction—Early Childhood Cluster

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Distance Education Studies
College of Education and Human Services

Learn more! ↪



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College of Education and Human Services

A fully online 9-credit program designed for child care directors in Pennsylvania whose centers are enrolled in Pennsylvania STARS. Students take up to three courses from a selection of six courses.

NINE CREDITS MAY BE TAKEN ON A GRADUATE NON-DEGREE BASIS OR AS PART OF A MASTER OF EDUCATION DEGREE IN CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION, EARLY CHILDHOOD CLUSTER



Program Delivery

The 9-credit program is offered completely online allowing for flexibility and convenience in completing coursework. Each course is 3 credits and delivered in an online format. Each course is limited to 25 students. The six courses will be offered throughout the calendar year enabling students to easily complete the three of six courses within six months to one year. To be eligible for the PA Directors Credential, students must successfully complete the required business course (ECH 564) and at least two additional courses from this set of six. Candidates must have previously completed a bachelor's degree.

Students who take courses for the PA Director Credential at Shippensburg University may take the courses on a non-degree basis. Each student is responsible for submitting an application for a Director Credential directly to the Pennsylvania Keys to Quality program with the Office of Child Development and Early Learning. The credential is awarded by the PA Key, not Shippensburg University. For more information go to www.pakeys.org.

FACULTY - *All faculty have held positions as directors of child care programs.*

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continued >

FACULTY - *continued*

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Registration and Costs

To register for a course, please visit www.ship.edu/pcde/registration_information. You will find directions here for Admitted and Returning Students as well as directions for New Non-Degree Students.

Tuition and fees for a 3-credit online course are \$1,596 for Pennsylvania residents and \$1,653 for non-residents. (These rates are specific to the 2013-2014 academic year.) Additional information can be found at www.ship.edu/Student_Accounts/Tuition_and_Fees/.

Financial Assistance

- Pennsylvania Keys to Quality offers a College Tuition Reimbursement Voucher up to \$500 per college credit and up to \$3000 per year in tuition reimbursement. Application may be found at: www.pakeys.org/pages/get.aspx?page=Career_Financial
- Degree seeking graduate students enrolled at least part-time (6-8 credits) at Shippensburg University are eligible to receive the Federal Direct Stafford Loan. Graduate students enrolled in less than 6 credits may apply for an Alternative Loan to cover the cost of education. www.ship.edu/Financial_Aid

Interested in pursuing an M.Ed.?

Courses taken as part of the Director Credential may be transferred directly into a Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction, Early Childhood Cluster at Shippensburg University. Candidates must also meet the following requirements:

- Hold a bachelor's degree in early childhood education, child development, special education, elementary education or human services or hold a bachelor's degree in any other field, including 30 credit hours of early childhood education, child development, special education, elementary education, or human services.
- Have an undergraduate overall grade point average of at least 2.75 or an approved score on the Miller Analogies Test.
- Submit an application to the Office of Graduate Admissions.
- Provide official transcripts of all undergraduate/graduate work.
- Complete a questionnaire concerning teaching background and future goals.
- Submit three letters of reference.
- Appear for an interview and a planning review with department faculty.

For more information, see www.ship.edu/Academics/Programs/Graduate/Early_Childhood_Education.