UNIFORM ARTICULATION AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA

BACCALAUREATE OF BIRTH-KINDERGARTEN AND

EARLY CHILDHOOD RELATED PROGRAMS

AND

NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

APPLIED ASSOCIATE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Effective: Fall 2018

Approved by the State Board of Community Colleges on March 16, 2018

Approved by The UNC Board of Governors on March 23, 2018

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BACKGROUND AND HISTORY

Nearly two decades ago, North Carolina Community College faculty and university faculty from the UNC System, as well as the North Carolina Private and Independent Colleges, began meeting to discuss early childhood education articulation and program alignment. An initial, primary concern was the university's uncertainty of the community college course content and alignment with university program standards.

In 2006, community college faculty from across the state began participation in a two-year Early Childhood Curriculum Improvement Project (CIP). The achieved goal of the CIP was to revise the early childhood program and courses to more closely align with university standards. North Carolina Community Colleges and both public and private universities created several bilateral articulation agreements following the completion of the CIP, which expanded transfer opportunities for community college early childhood education students.

Both the 2006-2008 CIP and the 2015 Growing Greatness projects were successful in updating early childhood course content and producing closer alignment with higher education standards. However, articulation through bilateral agreements created challenges. As of fall 2017, more than 14 early childhood education bilateral articulation agreements existed in North Carolina. With each university having a unique individual transfer course list, community college and university student advisors faced many issues and challenges--especially if a student decided to enroll at a different university than originally planned. Additionally, many community college early childhood education courses transferred into the university as electives, instead of specific courses within the major, forcing the students to take additional classes, which increased costs and time to graduation.

Session Law 2017-68, Senate Bill 315 (Part II) mandated by March 1, 2018, "the Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina and the State Board of Community Colleges shall develop an articulation agreement for the transfer of credits earned for an associate degree in an early childhood education program at a community college toward a baccalaureate degree in an early childhood education program at a constituent institution for the purposes of the student obtaining teacher licensure in the area of Birth through Kindergarten. The articulation agreement shall apply to all community college campuses and constituent institutions with early childhood education programs. The articulation agreement may include that the community college student transferring credit and enrolling in the constituent institution has a minimum grade point average and a minimum Praxis I score."

The legislation also required, by April 15, 2018, a combined report from the two governing boards to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee "on the development of the articulation agreement and the plan for implementation of the articulation agreement at all community college campuses and constituent institutions with early childhood education programs" and system-wide implementation of the articulation agreement beginning with the 2018-2019 academic year.

All 58 NC community college campuses offer the Early Childhood Education Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree, and twelve UNC institutions offer Birth to Kindergarten (B-K) licensure baccalaureate degrees. Additionally, eight UNC universities offer non-licensure degrees in early childhood education-

related programs. The agreement and articulation detailed in this document fulfills the requirements of Senate Bill 315 and will apply to the institutions listed in Appendix A, beginning with academic year 2018-2019.

PURPOSE AND RATIONALE

This document presents a uniform, statewide academic progression agreement that will promote educational advancement opportunities for early childhood education (ECE) students matriculating from the North Carolina Community College System to the constituent institutions of the University of North Carolina in order to complete a Bachelor's Degree in Birth-Kindergarten teaching licensure program or a Bachelor's Degree in a related Early Education non-licensure program.

This articulation agreement describes a progression degree plan that includes required general education for all Birth-Kindergarten (BK) education degree plans (licensure and non-licensure) and pre-major courses that are acceptable to all state funded ECE to BK programs (licensure and non-licensure) options. **Students who follow the progression degree plan will have 60 hours applied to all of the North Carolina public ECE to BK programs, both licensure and non-licensure**. Early Childhood Education students following the plan are guaranteed not to take additional, and often duplicative, courses.

This agreement does not guarantee student acceptance into any bachelor program at UNC institutions. ECE students must meet applicable admissions criteria and policies designated by, and earn admission into, the UNC institution of their choice. These criteria and admissions requirements may include (but are not limited to) minimum GPA and Praxis scores and their associated timelines, as published by each university's Bachelor's Degree in Birth-Kindergarten and Early Education-related programs (both licensure and non-licensure options).

Advisors at NCCCS and UNC institutions must ensure students understand the higher requirements and additional steps required for admission to a licensure track program, including passing and obtaining competitive scores on the Praxis exam, as well as the increased financial cost associated with taking the exam and other expenses related to earning licensure in the state of North Carolina (e.g., the edTPA teacher portfolio assessment, full-time and unpaid semester long internship experiences in classroom). However, students in these programs (and their advisors) should also comprehend how non-licensure prospective degrees will allow them alternative options to work with young children without a teaching license. The non-licensure track provides an off-ramp/alternative pathway to earning a bachelor degree in this area, yet still retain career options and mobility for working with young children.

This proposal supports the mission of the North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges and the University of North Carolina strategic plan's stated goals of "Access, Affordability and Efficiency as well as Economic and Community Engagement." It does this by reducing barriers that currently exist for applied associates degree early childhood educators who wish to earn baccalaureate degrees, and by creating a more seamless and rational--and guaranteed--transfer process for community college early childhood education students.   A codified, coordinated approach should increase ECE to BK student retention and persistence, and reduce time-to-degree completion.   The benefit to the state of NC likely will include an increase in the number of four-year degreed teachers with a Birth-Kindergarten licensure,

a more -educated and diverse early childhood workforce, and (due to the higher pay for these degrees) increased economic mobility for the teachers.

POLICIES

The Early Childhood Education Articulation Agreement (ECAA) is made between the State Board of North Carolina Community College System and the University of North Carolina Board of Governors. It applies to all 58 North Carolina community colleges offering the applied associate degree in Early Childhood Education programs and to those constituent, participating institutions of The University of North Carolina offering Birth-Kindergarten Teaching Licensure and related Early Education Non-Licensure Baccalaureate Degree Programs (see Appendix A for the list of participating institutions).

The ECAA licensure and non-licensure options apply to all community college students who enter into applied associate degree in Early Childhood Education programs after the effective date of this agreement and who successfully complete an Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree in Early Childhood Education prior to transfer. The ECE to BK Transfer Committee (ECEBKTC) will oversee refinements of and changes in the regulations, and will report in three years needed updates and outcomes of ECAA.

A. ECE to BK Transfer Committee (ECEBKTC)

Authority to interpret the Early Childhood Articulation Agreement (ECAA) policy rests with the ECE to BK Transfer Committee (ECEBKTC). The ECEBKTC is an eight-member committee appointed by the Chief Academic Officer (CAO) of the North Carolina Community College System and The University of North Carolina. The CAO will forward unresolved questions to the ECEBKTC for interpretation.

ECEBKTC members shall serve four-year, staggered terms. An individual may serve no more than two consecutive terms. Some initial appointments may be for 1, 2, 3, or 4 years to allow for staggering of terms.

ECEBKTC shall have co-chairs, one from the NCCCS faculty members, and one from the UNC faculty members. Co-chairs shall be elected by the membership, and shall serve staggered terms.

NCCCS Members: Five representatives, including:

- One non-voting, ex officio representative, selected by the NCCCS CAO from among NCCCS administrative personnel. This individual is exempt from the provision restricting member to no more than two consecutive terms.
- Four representatives from the 58 community college member schools. These four members will be nominated by their peers and reviewed for approval by the CAO of the NCCCS. Self-nomination with endorsement by peers is permitted.

UNC Members: Five representatives, including:

- One non-voting, ex officio representative, selected by the UNC CAO from among UNC System personnel**.** This representative will normally be the Director of Community College Partnerships, but the UNC CAO may select another individual. This individual is exempt from the provision restricting member to no more than two consecutive terms.
- Four representatives from the university member schools. These members will be nominated by their peers and reviewed for approval by the CAO of UNC. Self-nomination with endorsement by peers is permitted.

Questions concerning the ECAA policy interpretations should be directed to the appropriate system's Chief Academic Officer (CAO) with an explanation of the institutional policy that may be (or appear to be) in conflict with ECAA policy.

Questions about the transferability of the course work under the ECAA, and/or any proposed changes to the policies, general education courses, or early childhood education courses, must be addressed by the ECEBKTC. Changes to the curriculum standards for the Associate in Applied Science Early Childhood Education degree program are the authority of the State Board of Community Colleges. The ECEBKTC will be notified of any changes.

B. Admission Policy

Completion of the AAS ECE does not guarantee admission to one of the twelve UNC institutions who offer the Birth to Kindergarten licensure program or one of the eight UNC institutions who offer a non-licensure related early childhood education degree. AAS ECE students desiring admission to a UNC institution should review and understand the following conditions:

- Admission is not assured to a specific campus or specific program or major.
- Students must have graduated from a North Carolina community college with an Associate in Applied Science Early Childhood Education degree.
- Students must meet all requirements of the Early Childhood Articulation Agreement (ECAA).
- Students must meet minimum GPA and/or Praxis score admission requirements for the desired four-year institution's Bachelor's Degree in Birth-Kindergarten and Early Education-related degrees (licensure and non-licensure options). See specific UNC institution website for information on admission requirements and associated timelines, which vary by institution and program.
- Students must have an overall GPA of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale, as calculated by the college from which they graduated, and a grade of "C" or better in all ECAA courses.
- Students must be academically eligible for readmission to the last institution attended.
- Students must meet judicial requirements of the institution to which they apply.
- Students must meet all application requirements at the receiving institution, including the submission of all required documentation by stated deadlines.

C. Transfer Credit Appeal

If a transfer student perceives that the terms of the ECAA have not been honored, he or she may follow the Transfer Credit Appeal Procedure, as outlined below in "Regulations and Procedures, Section F."

Each UNC and community college institution will provide a link to the Transfer Credit Appeal Procedure on its website.

REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES

A. Transfer of Credits

The Early Childhood Articulation Agreement (ECAA) establishes the procedures governing the transfer of credits for students who transfer from a North Carolina Community College to a constituent institution of The University of North Carolina. The ECAA does not address admission to a specific institution or to a specific major within an institution.

1. Eligibility

To be eligible for the transfer of credits under the ECAA, the student must graduate from the community college with an Associate in Applied Science Early Childhood Education degree and have an overall Grade Point Average (GPA) of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale and a grade of "C" or better in all ECAA courses. Students who do not complete the degree are eligible to transfer credits on a course-by-course basis as determined by the receiving institution.

2. Definition of General Education Courses and Technical Courses

The Associate in Applied Science Early Childhood Education degree program in the North Carolina Community College System requires a total of sixty-four to seventy-six semester hours credit for graduation (see Appendix C), sixty of which are transferable to any UNC institution (see Appendix A). The overall total is comprised of both lower-division general education and early childhood education courses. This curriculum reflects the distribution of discipline areas commonly included in institution-wide, lower-division general education requirements for the baccalaureate degree.

The Associate in Applied Science Early Childhood Education degree program includes general education requirements that represent the fundamental foundation for success, with studies in the areas of English composition, communications, humanities and fine arts, natural sciences and mathematics, and social and behavioral sciences. Within these discipline areas, community colleges must include opportunities for the achievement of competence in reading, writing, oral communication, fundamental mathematical skills, and basic computer use. Additionally, the Associate in Applied Science in Early Childhood Education degree program includes technical courses in the field of early childhood education, which include study in the areas of child development for both typical and atypical development, child guidance, health, safety and nutrition, creative activities, language and literacy, working with children and diverse families, and field experiences/practicums. Students must meet the receiving university's foreign language and/or health and physical education requirements, if applicable, prior to or after transfer to the four-year institution.

The Associate in Applied Science Early Childhood Education degree program is structured to include three components:

- **Universal General Education Transfer Component** comprises a minimum of 15 semester hours of credit, including at least one course from each of the following areas: humanities/fine arts, social/behavioral sciences, and natural sciences/mathematics. AAS Degree programs must contain a minimum of 6 semester hours of communications. Diploma programs must contain a minimum of 6 semester hours of general education; 3 semester hours must be in communications. All Universal General Education Transfer Component courses will transfer as equivalency credit
- **Technical Core/Major Hours** consists of 49 semester hours, 35 of which are in the technical core, and
- **Other Major Hours**, which includes additional early childhood education courses or additional general education courses, and brings the total number of hours in the AAS degree to 64-76 hours.

To ensure maximum transferability of credits, students should select additional general education and early childhood education courses based on the courses listed in the ECAA (see Appendix B).

Each receiving institution will identify community college course equivalencies and publicize an equivalency course crosswalk to ensure transfer of credit uniformity and transparency.

The specific number and distribution of courses used to fulfill the requirement in each of these areas will be identified by each community college as meeting its own general education requirements. The Universal General Education Transfer Component and Other Required General Education courses will be drawn from those courses designated in the North Carolina Community College *Combined Course Library* as being transferable general education. This practice will preserve the autonomy of each community college to develop its own general education program, including those aspects that make its program unique.

3. Transfer of Associate in Applied Science Early Childhood Education Degree Program

a. The ECAA enables North Carolina community college graduates of Associate in Applied Science Early Childhood Education degree programs who are admitted to constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina to transfer with junior status.
b. Universities cannot place requirements on students transferring under the ECAA that are not required of their native students.
c. Due to degree requirements at some UNC institutions, additional courses at the UNC institution may be required beyond the general education courses taken at the community college.
d. Community college graduates of the Associate in Applied Science Early Childhood Education degree programs, who have earned 60 semester hours in approved transfer courses with a grade of "C" or better and an overall GPA of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale, will receive at least 60 semester hours of academic credit upon admission to a UNC institution.

e. Requirements for secondary admission to the school of education at each university may include the following: minimum Praxis scores, GPA, and other published admission requirements for the associated baccalaureate program, available on their degree website.

f. All courses approved for transfer in the ECAA are designated as fulfilling general education or pre-major/elective requirements (see Appendix B).

g. ECAA courses taken beyond the 60 SHC of credit in which the student received less than a "C" will not negate the provisions of the ECAA.

4. Certification of Universal General Education Transfer Component Courses, Associate in Applied Science Early Childhood Education Degree Completion

Certification of completion of the Associate in Applied Science Early Childhood Education degree is the responsibility of the community college at which the program is completed. Transcript identification of Universal General Education Transfer Component courses is also the responsibility of the community college at which the courses are completed.

5. Four-Year Degree Plan for Community College Associate in Applied Science Early Childhood Education Transfer Students

Beyond the Universal General Education Transfer Component courses, a program of study leading to the associate degree contains courses related to a student's major or program emphasis. Each UNC institution will develop, publish, and maintain four-year degree plans identifying community college courses that provide pathways leading to Associate in Applied Science Early Childhood Education degree completion, admission into the major, and baccalaureate completion. Students who complete the Associate in Applied Science Early Childhood Education degree plan track published by a UNC institution, and who are accepted into that institution and into that major within four years of initial enrollment at the community college, will continue into that major at the UNC institution with all courses fulfilling lower division general education and other degree requirements.

6. Transfer of courses not originated at North Carolina community colleges

Transfer courses that do not originate at a North Carolina community college or UNC institution may be used under the ECAA with the following stipulations:

a. Courses must be completed at a regionally accredited (e.g., SACSCOC) institution of higher education;

b. Courses must meet general education requirements as listed in Appendix B; and

c. Courses may total no more than 14 semester hours of general education course credit.

d. For courses not originating at a NC community college, if the courses are used to complete the AAS, the courses will transfer as part of the degree.

7. Transfer of Advanced Placement (AP) Course Credit

Advanced Placement (AP) course credits, awarded for a score of three or higher, are acceptable as part of a student's successfully completed Associate in Applied Science in Early Childhood Education degree under the ECAA.

B. Impact of the ECAA on other Articulation Agreements

The ECAA takes precedence over bilateral articulation agreements established between constituent institutions of the University of North Carolina and the North Carolina Community College System, but does not necessarily preclude such agreements. Institution-to-institution articulation agreements that fall within the parameters of the ECAA and enhance transferability of students from community colleges to senior institutions are encouraged. Institutional articulation agreements conflicting with the ECAA are not permitted.

C. Compliance Procedures

The Early Childhood Education Birth to Kindergarten Transfer Committee (ECEBKTC) is charged with ensuring compliance of institutional policies and practices regarding the ECAA. To that end, an ECEBKTC Review Team, comprised of one UNC representative and one community college representative, will survey and review the institutional transfer credit policies and procedures of two UNC institutions per quarter. The ECEBKTC will report the findings to UNC-General Administration and the North Carolina Community College System Office.

D. Students enrolled prior to Fall 2018

Students who entered or completed an AAS program in Early Childhood Education at a North Carolina Community College prior to Fall 2018 are subject to the conditions in place at the individual institutions at the time of their original enrollment or degree completion.

E. ECE to BK Transfer Committee Procedures

Articulation between the NCCCS and UNC is a dynamic process. To ensure the currency of the ECE to BK Licensure and Non-Licensure articulation agreement, occasional modifications to that agreement may be necessary. These modifications may include the addition, deletion, and/or revision of courses on the transfer list as listed in the degree plan (see Appendix B).

The ECEBKTC will receive requests for modification only upon the recommendation of the Chief Academic Officer (CAO) of the NCCCS or UNC institution. Additions, deletions, and modifications may be subject to faculty review, under the direction of the ECEBKTC. Because the modification process involves faculty and administrative review, this process may require up to 12 months for final action. Decisions made by the ECEBKTC will be consistent with all pertinent accreditation and licensure standards.

1. The Faculty Review Process

Any member of the ECEBKTC may request that a course under consideration be forwarded to the Faculty Review Committee. The Faculty Review Committee is not a standing, established committee. It is an ad hoc committee, with members selected and convened anew when needed by the ECEBKTC.

When formed, on each occasion, the Faculty Review Committee will:

    a. Consist of the following representatives:
        i. Four UNC faculty members
        ii. Four NCCCS faculty members
    b. Receive a request to review a course(s) from the assigned representative(s) of the ECEBKTC within one week of the ECEBKTC meeting where the request was made.
    c. Forward their comments, suggestions, and recommendations to the assigned representative(s) of the ECEBKTC prior to the next scheduled ECEBKTC meeting.

The assigned representative(s) of the ECEBKTC will report the results of the Faculty Review Committee at the next ECEBKTC scheduled meeting for action. Approval of the requested action will require a majority of the ECEBKTC members.

2. Addition of Courses to the Transfer List in the Block Degree Plan

All additions to the ECAA transfer list must be drawn from the Early Childhood Articulation Agreement in effect at the time that the request for the addition is made. Such additions may be recommended by a participating institution through the following process:

    a. The director of a Birth-Kindergarten or related Early Childhood Education at any one of the participating colleges or universities make a written request for inclusion of a specific course as a general education, a pre-major, or elective to the CAO of their college or university. That CAO submits a written request for inclusion on the transfer list to The University of North Carolina CAO. The UNC CAO will consult with the CAO of the North Carolina Community College System Office.
    b. The CAOs, or their designees at UNC and at NCCCS, will then seek feedback and endorsement about whether to pursue the change from their respective campuses. A two-thirds favorable response is required for the change to be pursued.
    c. The CAO of either system may submit the request for action to the ECEBKTC a minimum of thirty days prior to the next ECEBKTC meeting.
    d. The ECEBKTC reviews the request. Any member of the ECEBKTC may request that a course be referred to the Faculty Review Committee. For all courses that are approved, the Committee records their action and rationale of action.
    e. The NCCCS Office and the UNC System Office will distribute notification of action to all the participating colleges or universities in their system.

3. Deletion of a Course from the Transfer List

The director of a Birth-Kindergarten or Early Childhood Education program at any one of the participating colleges or universities may request that a course be removed from the ECE to BK

articulation agreement licensure and non-licensure transfer list in the Block Degree Plan by following similar procedures as outlined in items 1-5 in the *Addition of Courses to the Transfer List.*

4. Change in the Designation of a Course

The director of a Birth-Kindergarten or related Early Childhood Education program at any one of the participating colleges or universities may request a change in the designation of a course in the ECAA (i.e., Elective to General Education or Pre-Major) by sending the request and rationale to the CAOs of the two systems. Either of the system CAOs may submit the request to the ECEBKTC for action. Any member of the ECEBKTC may request that a course under consideration be forwarded to the Faculty Review Committee. The Faculty Review Committee will be asked to review the course and the proposed action.

F. ECE to BK Articulation Agreement Transfer Credit Appeal Procedures

If a student from a North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) college believes the terms of the Early Childhood Education Articulation Agreement (ECAA) have not been honored by a University of North Carolina (UNC) institution to which the student has been admitted, the student may invoke the following ECAA Transfer Credit Appeal Procedure:

Step #1:

- By the last day of classes of the first semester for which admission is offered, the student must submit an ECAA Transfer Credit Appeal Form, along with any supporting documentation, to the Director of Admission (or equivalent position, regardless of specific name, at the university) at the UNC campus to which the student has been admitted. Students first enrolling at the senior institution in a summer session must submit their appeal by the end of the subsequent fall semester.
- The student must specify on the appeal form the specific ECAA language that is in contention. Appeals lacking this information will not be considered.
- The Director of Admissions will review the appeal and respond in writing (email or letter) to the student within 15 business days.

Step #2:

- If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the Director of Admission, they may appeal on the same form to the Chief Academic Officer (CAO) of the University within 15 days of written notice of the Director's decision.
- The CAO will review the appeal and respond in writing (email or letter) to the student within 15 business days of receiving the student's appeal.

Step #3

- If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the Provost, they may appeal to the Early Childhood Education Birth to Kindergarten Transfer Advisory Committee

(ECEBKTC) subcommittee, composed of the Co-chairs, a representative from the UNC General Administration, and a representative from the NCCCS.

- The student must submit the appeal to the subcommittee within 15 days of the receipt of the Provost's decision. The appeal to the ECEBKTC subcommittee should be sent to:

<div align="center">
UNC-System Early Childhood Education Birth to Kindergarten
Transfer Committee Member ECAA Appeal
PO Box 2688
Chapel Hill, NC 27515
</div>

If a consensus is reached by the subcommittee, the student will be notified within 15 business days. If a consensus resolution is not reached, the appeal will be forwarded by the subcommittee to the full ECEBKTC within 10 business days. The ECEBKTC will review the appeal and notify the student of the final decision within 10 business days of receiving the appeal.

Appendix A

Participating Programs (as of Academic Year 2018-2019)

NCCCS Associate in Applied Science in Early Childhood Education (A55220)

>   All 58 NCCCS Community Colleges

UNC System ECE to Bachelor in Birth-Kindergarten Teaching licensure option:

1. Appalachian State University
2. East Carolina University
3. Elizabeth City State University
4. Fayetteville State University
5. North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University
6. North Carolina Central University
7. University of North Carolina at Charlotte
8. University of North Carolina at Greensboro
9. University of North Carolina at Pembroke
10. University of North Carolina Wilmington
11. Western Carolina University
12. Winston-Salem State University

UNC System Bachelor in Early Childhood Non-teaching licensure option, with corresponding Bachelor Degree title:

1. East Carolina University: *Family and Community Services, Child Development Concentration*
2. Elizabeth City State University: *Child, Family and Community*
3. Fayetteville State University: *Birth-Kindergarten Non-Teaching*
4. North Carolina Agricultural and Technical University*: Child Development and Family Studies*
5. North Carolina Central University: *Family Consumer Sciences, Child Development and Family Relations Concentration*
6. University of North Carolina Greensboro: *Early Care and Education*
7. Western Carolina University: *Early Childhood*
8. Winston-Salem State University: *Early Intervention and Preschool Concentration or Business Optional Concentration*

Appendix B

Block Degree Plan Transfer Course List
(60 Total credit hours applied to Bachelor Degree Program)

General Education
BLOCK 1 (15 course credit hours):
Consists of general education courses that are taken as part of all North Carolina AAS early education programs. The courses are:

Course Category	Transferable courses	Credit Hours
Communication	COM 231 **and** ENG 111	6
Humanities/Fine Arts	ART 111, 114, 115 MUS 110, 112 PHI 215, 240	3
Math	MAT 143	3
Social/Behavioral	PSY 150	3

BLOCK 2 (14 course credit hours):
Consists of additional **university general education** requirements that are not part of AAS degree but are required to earn a **Bachelor degree in Birth-Kindergarten (B-K) teaching licensure program and non-teaching licensure Early Childhood related Bachelor degree programs**.

Course Category	Transferable courses	Credit Hours
English Composition	ENG 112 or ENG 114	3
Social/Behavioral	ECO 251, 252 HIS 111, 112, 131, 132 POL 120, SOC 210	3
Biological Science	BIO 110 or 111	4
Natural Science	AST 111 and 111A, 151 and 151A CHM 151, GEL 111, PHY 110 and 110 A	4

29 Total Hours of General Education

Early Childhood Competencies
BLOCK 3 (31 course credit hours) for Birth-Kindergarten Licensure Transfer:
Consists of AAS Early Education Major Hours required as part of the AAS degree that will be applied to the Bachelor in **Birth-Kindergarten Teaching Licensure track** option. These courses are:

Course Category	Transferable courses	Credit Hours
Child, Family and Community/ Diverse Worlds	EDU 131	3
Child Development 1 & 2	EDU 144 & 145 or PSY 244 & 245	6
Guiding Children's Behavior/Child as Teacher/Parent Child Interaction	EDU 146	3
Health, Safety and Nutrition	EDU 153	3
Foundations of American Education	EDU 216	3
Children with Exceptionalities	EDU 221	3
Infant and Toddler Curriculum	EDU 234	3
Teacher Licensure Preparation	EDU 250 or if Praxis requirements have been met by SAT/ACT, any other EDU course to get to 60 transferable hours	3
Capstone Practicum	EDU 284	4

60 Total hours (Block 1+ 2+ 3= 60 hrs)

OR

BLOCK 4 (31 course credit hours): Early Education Non-Teaching Licensure Transfer:
Consists of other AAS Early Education Major Hours that will be applied to related Bachelor in Early Education **Non-teaching licensure transfer** option. Students would **not complete BLOCK 3** but instead will complete Block 4 with BLOCK 1, 2. These courses are:

Course Category	Transferable courses	Credits
Child, Family and Community/ Diverse Worlds	EDU 131	3
Child Development 1 & 2	EDU 144 & 145 or PSY 244 & 245	6
Guiding Children's Behavior/Child as Teacher/Parent Child Interaction	EDU 146	3
Health, Safety and Nutrition	EDU 153	3
Children with Exceptionalities	EDU 221	3
Infant and Toddler Curriculum	EDU 234	3
Early Childhood Administration 1	EDU 261	3
Early Childhood Administration 2	EDU 262	3
Capstone Practicum	EDU 284	4

60 Total Hours (Block 1+ 2+ 4= 60 hrs)

BLOCK 5: Remaining hours to get to 120 total degree credit hours or specified total credit hours by UNC system institution.

Consists of university-based courses that are **taken at the UNC system institution**, as a part of the **B-K Bachelor degree teaching licensure** program or for **Transfer/Non-Licensure** early education related bachelor program, see Appendix A for participating schools for both programs.

Appendix C

<div style="text-align:center">

Associate in Applied Science in Early Childhood Education Curriculum Standard

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Career Cluster: Education and Training**

Cluster Description: Planning, managing, and providing education and training services, and related learning support services.

Pathway: Teaching/Training	Effective Term: Fall 2018 (2018*03)

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Program Majors Under Pathway

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Program Major / Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code		Credential Level(s) Offered	Program Major Code
Early Childhood Education	CIP Code 13.1210	AAS/Diploma/Certificate	A55220

Curriculum Description

The Early Childhood Education curriculum prepares individuals to work with children from birth through eight in diverse learning environments. Students will combine learned theories with practice in actual settings with young children under the supervision of qualified teachers.

Coursework includes child growth and development; physical/nutritional needs of children; care and guidance of children; and communication skills with families and children. Students will foster the cognitive/language, physical/motor, social/emotional, and creative development of young children.

Graduates are prepared to plan and implement developmentally appropriate programs in early childhood settings. Employment opportunities include child development and child care programs, preschools, public and private schools, recreational centers, Head Start Programs, and school-age programs.

*Program Major Description: The following 4th paragraph is used in conjunction with the first three paragraphs of the pathway description above for documentation used to identify the **Program Major:***

Early Childhood Education: A program that prepares individuals to promote child development and learning, work with diverse families and children, observe, document and assess to support young children and families, use content knowledge to build meaningful curriculum, and use developmentally effective approaches in collaboration with other early childhood professionals. Potential coursework includes instruction in all areas of child development such as emotional/social/health/physical/language/communication, approaches to play and learning, working with diverse families, and related observations/student teaching experiences.
Within the degree program, the institution shall include opportunities for the achievement of competence in reading, writing, oral communication, fundamental mathematical skills, and basic use of computers.

I. General Education Academic Core *Curriculum Requirements for associate degree, diploma, and certificate programs in accordance with 1D SBCCC 400.97(3): Degree programs must contain a minimum of 15 semester hours including at least one course from each of the following areas: humanities/fine arts, social/behavioral sciences, and natural sciences/mathematics. Degree programs must contain a minimum of 6 semester hours of communications. Diploma programs must contain a minimum of 6 semester hours of general education; 3 semester hours must be in communications. General education is optional in certificate programs.*

Teaching/Training: Early Childhood Education			
Recommended General Education Academic Core	**AAS**	**Diploma**	**Certificate**
Minimum General Education Hours Required:	**15 SHC**	**6 SHC**	**0 SHC**

Courses listed below are recommended general education courses for this curriculum standard. Colleges may choose to include additional or alternative gen education courses to meet local curriculum needs.

	AAS	Diploma	Certificate
Communication:	**6 SHC**	**3-6 SHC**	**Optional**

  COM   231   Public Speaking **U**   3 SHC
  ENG   111   Writing and Inquiry **U**   3 SHC

	AAS	Diploma	Certificate
Humanities/Fine Arts:	**3 SHC**	**0-3 SHC**	**Optional**

  ART   111   Art Appreciation **U**   3 SHC
  ART   114   Art History Survey I **U**   3 SHC
  ART   115   Art History Survey II **U**   3 SHC
  MUS   110   Music Appreciation **U**   3 SHC
  MUS   112   Introduction to Jazz **U**   3 SHC
  PHI   215   Philosophical Issues **U**   3 SHC
  PHI   240   Introduction to Ethics **U**   3 SHC

Social /Behavioral Sciences:

  PSY   150   General Psychology **U**   3 SHC

	AAS	Diploma	Certificate
Natural Sciences/Mathematics:	**3 SHC**	**0-3 SHC**	**Optional**

  MAT   143   Quantitative Literacy **U**   3 SHC

  U indicates a Universal General Education Transfer Component (UGETC) course included in the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement. UGETC courses are guaranteed to transfer to any of the sixteen University of North Carolina senior institutions as equivalent credit within defined distribution limits.

	AAS	Diploma	Certificate
Additional General Education for Transfer Specialty Areas 14 SHC (Block 2 of Articulation Agreement)	**3 SHC**	**0-3 SHC**	**Optional**

  English Composition *(Select 1)*
  ENG 112   Writing/Research in the Disc **U**   3 SHC
  ENG 114   Prof Research & Reporting   3 SHC

  Social/Behavioral Science *(Select 1)*
  ECO 251   Prin of Microeconomics **U**   3 SHC
  ECO 252   Prin of Macroeconomics **U**   3 SHC
  HIS 111   World Civilizations I   **U**   3 SHC
  HIS 112   World Civilizations II   **U**   3 SHC
  HIS 131   American History I   **U**   3 SHC
  HIS 132   American History II   **U**   3 SHC
  POL 120   American Government   **U**   3 SHC
  SOC 210   Introduction to Sociology   **U**   3 SHC

  Biological Science *(Select 1)*
  BIO 110   Principles of Biology **U**   4 SHC
  BIO 111   General Biology I **U**   4 SHC

Natural Science *(Select 1)*

AST 111	Descriptive Astronomy & Lab (AST 111A) **U**	4 SHC
AST 151	General Astronomy & Lab (AST 151A) **U**	4 SHC
CHM 151	General Chemistry I **U**	4 SHC
GEL 111	Introductory Geology **U**	4 SHC
PHY 110	Conceptual Physics & Lab (PHY 110A)	4 SHC

Refer to Blocks 1 and 2 of the Block Degree Plan for more information about required General Education in the Early Childhood Education Statewide Articulation Agreement.

II. Major Hours. AAS, diploma, and certificate programs must include courses which offer specific job knowledge and skills. Work-based learning may be included in associate in applied science degrees up to a maximum of 8 semester hours of credit; in diploma programs up to a maximum of 4 semester hours of credit; and in certificate programs up to a maximum of 2 semester hours of credit. Below is a description of each section under Major Hours.

  A. Technical Core. The technical core is comprised of specific courses which are required for all Program Majors under this Curriculum Standard. A diploma program offered under an approved AAS program standard or a certificate which is the highest credential level awarded under an approved AAS program standard must include a minimum of 12 semester hours credit derived from the curriculum core courses or core subject area of the AAS program.

  B. Program Major(s). The Program Major must include a minimum of 12 semester hour credits from required subjects and/or courses. The Program Major is in addition to the technical core.

  C. Other Major Hours. Other major hours must be selected from prefixes listed on the curriculum standard. A maximum of 9 semester hours of credit may be selected from each prefix listed, with the exception of prefixes listed in the core.

Teaching/Training: Early Childhood Education	AAS	Diploma	Certificate
Minimum Major Hours Required:	**49 SHC**	**30 SHC**	**12 SHC**
A. TECHNICAL CORE *Courses required for the diploma are designated with* * Required Courses:	**35 - 41 SHC**	**25 SHC**	

  * EDU 119   Intro to Early Child Education   4 SHC
  * EDU 131   Child, Family, & Community   3 SHC
  * EDU 146   Child Guidance   3 SHC
  * EDU 151   Creative Activities   3 SHC
  * EDU 153   Health, Safety & Nutrition   3 SHC
  * EDU 221   Children with Exceptional   3 SHC
  EDU 234   Infants, Toddlers & Twos   3 SHC
  EDU 280   Language & Literacy Experiences   3 SHC
  EDU 284   Early Child Capstone Practicum   4 SHC

  *Child Development. Select one set:
  EDU 144   Child Development I   3 SHC
  & EDU 145   Child Development II   3 SHC
  OR
  PSY 244   Child Development I   3 SHC
  & PSY 245   Child Development II   3 SHC

  B. Transfer Specialty Area: *Required Specialty Subject Areas for students pursuing early childhood education birth to kindergarten transfer per the Early Childhood Articulation Agreement (ECAA); Not required for non-transfer students.*

Select one specialty area**:			
1.Birth to Kindergarten (B-K) Licensure Transfer EDU 216 Foundations of Education (4) 3 SHC EDU 250 Teacher Licensure Preparation (1) 3 SHC *If Praxis requirement is met by ACT/SAT scores, take any 3 SHC EDU course.* **2. Early Education Non-Teaching Licensure Transfer** EDU 261 Early Childhood Admin I 3 SHC EDU 262 Early Childhood Admin II 3 SHC *Refer to Blocks 3 and 4 of Block Degree Plan for more information about required EDU courses in the proposed Early Childhood Education Statewide Articulation Agreement.*			

C. OTHER MAJOR HOURS *The remaining other major hours may be chosen from the following prefixes:*
ACC, ANT, ART, ASL, AST, BIO, BUS, CHM, CIS, COM, CSC, CTS, DAN, DBA, DRA, ECO, EDU, ENG, FRE, GEO, GER, HEA, HIS, HUM, MUS, OST, PED, PHI, PHS, POL, PSY, REL, SCI, SOC, SPA, WBL, and WEB

Up to two semester hour credits may be selected from ACA.

Up to three semester hour credits may be selected from the following prefixes: ARA, ASL, CHI, FRE, GER,   ITA, JPN, LAT, POR, RUS and SPA.

III. Other Required Hours
A college may include courses to meet graduation or local employer requirements in a certificate (0-1 SHC), diploma (0-4 SHC), or an associate in applied science (0-7 SHC) program. These curriculum courses shall be selected from the Combined Course Library and must be approved by the System Office prior to implementation. Restricted, unique, or free elective courses may not be included as other required hours.

IV. Employability Competencies
Fundamental competencies that address soft skills vital to employability, personal, and professional success are listed below. Colleges are encouraged to integrate these competencies into the curriculum by embedding appropriate student learning outcomes into one or more courses or through alternative methods.

   A. **Interpersonal Skills and Teamwork** – The ability to work effectively with others, especially to analyze situations, establish priorities, and apply resources for solving problems or accomplishing tasks.

   B. **Communication** – The ability to effectively exchange ideas and information with others through oral, written, or visual means.

   C. **Integrity and Professionalism –** Workplace behaviors that relate to ethical standards, honesty, fairness, respect, responsibility, self-control, criticism and demeanor.

   D. **Problem-solving** – The ability to identify problems and potential causes while developing and implementing practical action plans for solutions.

E. **Initiative and Dependability** – Workplace behaviors that relate to seeking out new responsibilities, establishing and meeting goals, completing tasks, following directions, complying with rules, and consistent reliability.

F. **Information processing** – The ability to acquire, evaluate, organize, manage, and interpret information.

G. **Adaptability and Lifelong Learning –** The ability to learn and apply new knowledge and skills and adapt to changing technologies, methods, processes, work environments, organizational structures and management practices.

H. **Entrepreneurship –** The knowledge and skills necessary to create opportunities and develop as an employee or self-employed business owner.

*An **Employability Skills Resource Toolkit** has been developed by NC-NET for the competencies listed above. Additional information is located at: http://www.nc-net.info/employability.php*

**The *North Carolina Career Clusters Guide was developed by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and the North Carolina Community College system to link the academic and Career and Technical Education programs at the secondary and postsecondary levels to increase student achievement. Additional information about Career Clusters is located at: http://www.nc-net.info/NC_career_clusters_guide.php or http://www.careertech.org.*

Summary of Required Semester Hour Credits (SHC) for each credential:

	AAS	Diploma	Certificate
Minimum General Education Hours	15	6	0
Minimum Major Hours	49	30	12
Other Required Hours	0-7	0-4	0-1
Total Semester Hours Credit (SHC)	**64-76**	**36-48**	**12-18**

**The Early Childhood Articulation Agreement licensure and non-licensure options apply to all community college students who enter into applied associate degree in Early Childhood Education programs after the effective date of the agreement (Fall 2018) and who successfully complete an Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree in Early Childhood Education prior to transfer.

Appendix D

Transfer Committee Membership 2018:

North Carolina Community College System Members:

1. **Stephanie Shockley** sshockley@forsythtech.edu (Forsyth Technical Community College)
2. **Cyndie Osborne,** cosborne7426@stanly.edu (Stanly Community College)
3. **Jennifer Bosworth** jenniferbosworth@abtech.edu **(**Asheville Buncombe Technical Community College)
4. **Terri Colon** colont@cravencc.edu (Craven Community College)
5. **Lisa Eads** eadsl@nccommunitycolleges.edu (non-voting, NCCCS office)

University of North Carolina System Members:

1. **Susannah Berry** berrys@ecu.edu (East Carolina University)
2. **Denise Brewer** brewerdm@appstate.edu (Appalachian State University)
3. **Jamie Brown** jbrow346@uncc.edu (University of North Carolina at Charlotte
4. **Kimberley Chavis** kimberly.chavis@NCCU.EDU (North Carolina Central University)
5. **Stephanie Bailey** skbailey@northcarolina.edu (non-voting, UNC System office)