

Introducing EarlyEdU: An Alliance for Head Start and Early Childhood Teaching

The need for high-quality early childhood teachers is greater than ever. Increasingly, early learning programs—from Head Start to state-funded preschool, to private programs—focus on achieving measurable outcomes for children. Teachers must understand child development and master instructional practices that engage young children in learning at every opportunity.

That's why the National Center on Quality Teaching and Learning, funded by the Office of Head Start, launched EarlyEdU. This higher education alliance works to advance early childhood teaching by providing a suite of online courses for early childhood educators to prepare them for classroom success.

Research-based courses to improve teaching

A team of early childhood experts from top universities developed the EarlyEdU courses. Each course is built on tested frameworks for intentional teaching, and promotes the evidence-based knowledge, skills, and practices that early childhood teachers need to help young learners thrive.

The courses are designed for prospective early childhood educators as well as current teachers working in a wide variety of preschool settings. They will be delivered in partnership with faculty at four-year colleges and universities.

Flexible and proven technology

All EarlyEdU courses are available as classroom versions and many will be available online. In addition to expert content, the courses take advantage of an innovative online platform, the Coaching Companion Campus Edition, which allows students to upload and annotate videos of their own teaching. The courses are designed for students working toward a B.A. degree. Each course includes:

- ✓ Content-rich syllabi and reading lists
- ✓ Practice-based assignments and grading rubrics
- ✓ Engaging lectures
- ✓ Rich digital media resources such as video vignettes, guest lectures, and interviews with researchers
- ✓ Assignments that challenge students to demonstrate improved teaching practices in real-world settings

EarlyEdU courses include 15 sessions. Each course promotes cultural and linguistic diversity and addresses the challenges of today's preschool classroom.

Foundational

- Applied Child Development and Family Engagement*
- Engaging Interactions and Environments*
- Child Observation and Assessment
- Resiliency and Wellness for Educators*
- Becoming a Teacher Leader

Early Academic Domains

- Positive Behavioral Support for Young Children*
- Laying a Foundation for Reading: Supporting Language and Literacy Development in Preschool*
- Cognition and General Knowledge*
- Executive Functioning and Approaches to Learning
- Children's Health and Well-Being
- Learning with Digital Media in Early Childhood

Specialization

- Highly Individualized Teaching and Learning
- Supporting Dual Language Learners
- Practice-Based Coaching

Capstone

- Intentional Teaching

* Available in online format

For more information about EarlyEdU, please visit our website at www.earlyedualliance.org. If you have questions please contact us at info@earlyedualliance.org.