

ASSOCIATE DEGREE CHILD DEVELOPMENT

GUIDED PATHWAY: CHILD DEVELOPMENT

For more information, visit www.laredo.edu/ and your academic advisor.

This is an example course sequence for students interested in pursuing Child Development. It does not represent a contract, nor does it guarantee course availability. Following this pathway will help you earn an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree in Child

Development¹. For official degree requirements, http://www.laredo.edu/online_catalog/child-developmenteducation-cdec-educ-teca.htm.

Laredo College offers two levels of study: a two-year Associate of Applied Science degree (D) in Child Development and a one-year Child Development Assistant Certificate (C1).

The Child Development curriculum is designed to train people as assistants, teachers, or directors in early childhood programs. Committed to the idea that quality care makes a positive difference in the lives of children and their families, the program responds to the demand for quality child care staff. The program addresses student competencies and standards for early childhood programs, as developed by the National Association for the Education of Young Children, State Board for Educator's Certification Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities Standards, and the Child Development National Credential Program. Students must maintain a "C" or better in all Child Development courses in order to get credit for the course and proceed to the next course as stated in the certificate and AAS degree plans.

Instruction is centered on lecture, lab, internships, and field experience classes which offer direct participation in a variety of settings, including child care centers, preschools, nursery schools, early childhood programs, and public schools.

Visit [Career Pathways](#) to view guided pathways created for students who complete an AAS degree and the options for transfer. Speak with an academic advisor at your college to choose courses that will help you to transfer to a specific university.



COLLEGE READINESS REQUIREMENTS (only for the AAS)

Enrolling in one or more courses may be necessary if assessment activities and previous academic experiences indicate a need for additional knowledge and skills:

READING & WRITING PLACEMENT

TSI MET: YES NO

IF NO, ADVISOR INSERT COURSE(S) NEEDED

☐ INRW _____

☐ OTHER: _____

MATH PLACEMENT

TSI MET: YES NO

IF NO, ADVISOR INSERT COURSE(S) NEEDED

☐ DEV MATH _____

☐ OTHER: _____

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

TSI MET: YES NO

IF NO, ADVISOR INSERT COURSE(S) NEEDED

☐ ESOL _____

☐ OTHER: _____

Exemptions/waivers may exist. Speak with an academic advisor regarding placement in college readiness courses and your ability to enroll in core academic coursework.

SEMESTER BY SEMESTER MAP FOR FULL-TIME STUDENTS²

D	C1		SEMESTER 1	ACTION ITEMS
◆	◆		TECA 1311 – Educating Young Children	☐ Meet with your advisor to confirm academic and career goals before the end of the semester. ☐ Meet with a career advisor or instructor to research your career options and opportunities for job shadowing. <i>All Child Development courses require a grade of "C" or better.</i>
◆	◆		CDEC 1313 – Curriculum Resources for Early Childhood Programs	
◆	◆		CDEC 1358 – Creative Arts for Early Childhood	
◆	◆		CDEC 1359 – Children with Special Needs	
◆	◆		TECA 1354 – Child Growth and Development	
TOTAL SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS: 15				
D	C1		SEMESTER 2	ACTION ITEMS
◆	◆		TECA 1318 – Wellness of the Young Child	☐ Meet with your advisor to file an official degree plan, confirm or update your academic/career path and program of study. ☐ Meet with your advisor to apply for the Child Development Certificate (AC1) Completion *Co-requisites CDEC 1319 & CDEC 2187 <i>All Child Development courses require a grade of "C" or better.</i>
◆	◆		CDEC 1356 – Emergent Literacy for Early Childhood	
◆	◆		CDEC 1319 – *Child Guidance ³	
◆	◆		CDEC 2187 – *Internship – Child Care Provider/Assistant	
◆	◆		CDEC 1321 – The Infant and Toddler	
◆	◆		TECA 1303 – Families, School & Community	
TOTAL SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS: 16				
D			SUMMER	ACTION ITEMS
◆			ENGL 1301 – Composition I (C)	
TOTAL SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS: 3				
D			SEMESTER 3	ACTION ITEMS
◆			ENGL 1302 – Composition II (C)	☐ Meet with a career advisor or coach for assistance in preparing for job search. * (Co-requisites CDEC 2307 & CDEC 2188) <i>All Child Development courses require a grade of "C" or better.</i>
◆			CDEC 2326 – Administration of Programs for Children I	
◆			CDEC 2307 – *Math and Science for Early Childhood	
◆			CDEC 2188 – *Internship – Child Care Provider/Assistant	
			Elective – Social or Behavioral Sciences (C)	
TOTAL SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS: 13				
D			SEMESTER 4	ACTION ITEMS
◆			CDEC 2328 – Administration of Programs for Children II	☐ Meet with your advisor to apply for the Child Development AAS Completion *Preferably: ENGL 2322, ENGL 2323, ENGL 2327, ENGL 2328, ENGL 2332, ENGL 2333, or ENGL 2351. <i>All Child Development courses require a grade of "C" or better.</i>
◆			Elective – MATH or Natural Sciences (C)	
◆			CDEC 2486 – Internship – Child Care Provider/Assistant ³	
◆			Elective – *Language Philosophy & Culture (C)	
TOTAL SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS: 13				
AAS DEGREE MINIMUM: 60 SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS/PATHWAY TOTAL: 60 SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS				

1. Degree plans may change in later catalogs. Be sure to consult with your advisor if you are continuing on an older degree plan.

2. Students must earn at least 25% of the credit hours (15 hours) required for graduation through instruction by Laredo College awarding the degree.

3. Capstone Experience

C This course counts for the Core Curriculum at any public college or university in Texas.

Certification and Licensure Information

N/A

Career Information

Common Job Titles

Teacher in Early Childhood Program	Preschool/Daycare Teacher	Child Life Specialist
Director in Child Care Facility	Early Intervention Specialist	Child Legislative Advocate
Texas Rising Star Support/Mentor	Family Day Care Provider	Texas School Ready Comprehensive Coach
Recreation Leader/ Play Group Leader	Parent Educator	Nanny
Social Worker/Adoption agent	State/Local Licensing Worker	Childcare Worker
Teacher Assistant	Home Care Provider	Child Party Entertainer

Regional Labor Market Information

The national average salary of a pre-school teacher in 2024 is at **\$37,120** per year, representing an hourly wage of \$17.85. The data is according to the estimates released by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Occupational Outlook Handbook in May 2024.

The national average salary of a Childcare Center Director in 2024 is at **\$56,270** per year, representing an hourly wage of \$27.05. The data is according to the estimates released by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Occupational Outlook Handbook in May 2024.

Career and labor market research tools

Bureau of Labor Statistics: <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/>, O*NET: <https://www.onetonline.org/>

Career Resources: Laredo College career services website provides information on [career exploration](#) and [employment](#). Click [here](#) for more information transfer resources. Students are encouraged to consult with their area of study advisor for additional career assistance. The above information is provided as a guide and reference tool for occupations related to this program. This is not a guarantee of job placement in any of these occupations after successful completion of an LC program. The common job titles listed are representative titles and are provided for career research. These are not the only occupations possible in this area of study.

Transfer Information

The Associate of Applied Science in Child Development prepares students to directly enter the workforce; however, a Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences (BAAS) is an excellent alternative to the Bachelor's degree. The Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences degree applies non-transferable courses and work experience towards the Bachelor's degree. You still must meet general education requirements and take upper level courses.

Transfer Guides: The universities listed here do not constitute a Laredo College endorsement. Transfer course evaluations and determination of which courses will count toward a Bachelor's degree are made by the receiving transfer institution.

Laredo College:

Texas A&M International University: <http://www.tamui.edu>

South Texas College: <http://www.SouthTexas.edu>

Additional Transfer Resources: Laredo College [transfer planning guide website](#) provides information on additional colleges & universities. Students are encouraged to consult with a faculty advisor, area of study advisor, and/or their chosen transfer institution to ensure courses taken at LC will apply toward their bachelor's degree program.