



# Start your career in childcare

## Early Childhood Education Assistant Training

### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Are you interested in building a career in childcare? The Entry to Early Childhood Education Assistant Training Program is a collaborative project between Vancouver Community College (VCC) and Pacific Immigrant Resources Society. This comprehensive 16-week interculturally inclusive and accessible skill training program is designed to equip new immigrant and refugee women and individuals facing multiple barriers to employment become skilled and certified ECE Assistants. Graduates will be fully prepared to enter the ever-growing and in-demand early childhood education field as ECE assistants and/or pursue further education.

This program includes 12 weeks of cohort-based classroom learning at VCC's downtown campus and four weeks of on-the-job experience at an authentic workplace with a local employer. Additional financial supports may be available to cover wraparound supports while participating in the program.

### COURSES

- Guiding and caring
- Trauma-informed approaches to early childcare and learning
- Skills for success
- Employment and job search skills
- Occupational language training
- Industry certifications: FOODSAFE and First Aid

### TO REGISTER

To apply, all interested candidates must attend an information session. Register at [vcc.ca/info](http://vcc.ca/info). For questions, please contact Alena Worster at [contracttraining@vcc.ca](mailto:contracttraining@vcc.ca) or call 604.443.8751.

### TRAINING SCHEDULE\* (subject to change)

- Cohort 2: May 6, 2024 – Aug. 23, 2024
- Cohort 3: Sept. 03, 2024 – Dec. 20, 2024
- Cohort 4: April 21, 2025 – Aug. 8, 2025
- Cohort 5: July 14, 2025 – Oct. 31, 2025

### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Participants **must** be:

1. At least 18 years old and have a Social Insurance Number (SIN)
2. Living in British Columbia
3. Canadian Citizens; or Permanent Residents; or Protected persons entitled to work in Canada
4. Unemployed or precariously employed
5. Experiencing multiple barriers to employment such as lack of recent/Canadian experience, lack of basic employment skills, limited languages skills, non-high school completion, unstable housing etc.

Priority will be given to recent immigrant and refugee women.

### ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

- Grade 10 English or Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB) level 6 or above
- Ability to pass a criminal record check including a vulnerable sector check



Canada



Funding provided by the Government of Canada through the Canada-British Columbia Workforce Development Agreement.

# Course Descriptions

## GUIDING AND CARING: 40 Hours

This course introduces students to a variety of theoretical perspectives and positive approaches to guiding children's behavior and promoting their healthy emotional and social development. It focuses on best practices that ensure a positive and encouraging approach.

## TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACHES: 40 hours

The purpose of this course is to introduce the principles of trauma-informed approaches in early childcare and learning. This course builds a knowledge base and the skills required for effectively integrating creative movement, drama, dance, and music in curriculum and program planning for young children in the early childcare and learning context.

## TRANSITION TO EMPLOYMENT: 40 hours

This course teaches students effective self-marketing skills to find suitable work experience placements and secure sustainable workforce attachments upon program completion. Students will gain the skills and knowledge on writing resumes/cover letters, preparing for interviews and networking/informational interviews through classroom training, role plays, and group and individualized coaching. Students will become self-aware of their strengths and transferrable skills and develop action plans to achieve their short-term and long-term employment goals.

## ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

- FOODSAFE Level 1
- First Aid



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## OCCUPATIONAL LANGUAGE: 80 hours

This course is designed to help students improve their occupation-specific English language skills for successful integration into the workforce. Participants will focus on improving their language proficiency in various occupational contexts, including job-specific terminology and workplace communication. The course will prepare students to effectively communicate and succeed in their chosen careers within the job market.

## SKILLS FOR SUCCESS: 40 hours

In this course, students learn about the nine Skills for Success needed to participate and thrive in learning, work and life as identified by Employment and Social Development Canada. This course focuses on cultivating a wide range of foundational skills that are crucial for personal and professional success, fostering effective social interaction, and building a strong foundation for continuous growth.

## WORK EXPERIENCE: 80 hours

This work experience with a local employer offers students opportunities to apply the knowledge and skills acquired during their training program.

## TO HOST A STUDENT FOR WORK PLACEMENT

Please contact Halyna Yehorova at 778-608-4081 ext.821 or [hyehorova@pirs.bc.ca](mailto:hyehorova@pirs.bc.ca)



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