

# EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION - INTERNSHIP

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For employees already working in early learning and child-care settings, there are funding opportunities to support professional development. But finding ways to pursue additional education while still working at a job they love can be a challenge.

The Lethbridge College Early Childhood Education Internship program was designed to remove these barriers to obtaining certification.

## Flexible Learning to Meet Your Needs

Our ECE Internship, which is delivered in a highly flexible format, is intended for students who already work in the field. They can work during the day to maintain their income stream and attend courses either in the early evening in-person on Lethbridge College's campus or synchronously online. Either way, students will become part of a cohort of early childhood education professionals who learn together. That collegiality is important as students learn theory and share their practical experiences together.

Some courses are also offered asynchronously online, which means the student works through them when it fits into their schedule, while still meeting assignment deadlines.

Starting in January and spread over three terms, students will learn research-based practices and immediately be able to apply theory in their workplaces. At the end of the program, students will earn a college certificate as well as Level 2 educator status and pay.

## Your Investment

Program fees will vary. To view fee information for your program, go to [lethbridgecollege.ca/programs](https://lethbridgecollege.ca/programs) (<https://lethbridgecollege.ca/programs/>) and select your program.

As employees in early learning and child-care settings, students and their employers can apply for financial support:

- The Canada-Alberta Job Grant (<https://www.alberta.ca/canada-alberta-job-grant.aspx>). The employer can apply to access two-thirds of the cost of tuition, textbooks and fees, up to \$10,000 per trainee per fiscal year.
- Child Care Professional - Professional Development Funding (<https://www.alberta.ca/alberta-child-care-grant-funding-program.aspx>). The employee/student can apply for up to \$1,500 a year that can go toward their tuition. The employer can apply for a paid release time grant to help fill the hours when the employee is in class.

## Graduation

Upon successful completion of requirements, students are awarded an Early Childhood Education Internship Certificate.