



FULLY ONLINE



Higher Certificate in Early Childhood Care and Education

Duration: 2 years | 10 modules | 120 credits | SAQA ID: 112139 | NQF Level 5

APPLY NOW



Ranked **3rd** best Private
Higher Education Institute
in South Africa by the
**World Scholarship
Forum**



About the programme

This programme prepares participants to become recognised early childhood education practitioners who can support and promote early learning and development for babies, toddlers, and young children up to four years of age. It combines foundational theory with practical insights, creating a pathway to further study at diploma or degree level.

START YOUR JOURNEY TODAY!

Structure and Enrolment

- **Duration:** 2 years
(modules: 8 weeks each, 7 weeks study + 1 week break)
- **Format:** Fully online (*E-Learning*)
- **Effort:** 12–15 hours per week
- **Admission Requirements:**
Grade 12 National Senior Certificate
OR
relevant NQF Level 4 qualification

Application Requirements

- Completed application form
- Certified copy of ID/passport
- Certified copy of highest qualification(s)
- SAQA and USAF verification
for foreign qualifications
- For Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT): certified transcripts and study guide
- For Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL): testimonials or reference letters, portfolio of evidence, CV, and research portfolio where applicable



Who is this Programme For?

This programme is ideal for:

- Individuals seeking a formal qualification to begin or grow their career as Early Childhood Development (ECD) educators.
- Caregivers looking to transition into professional roles in early learning environments.
- Those aiming to progress into diploma or bachelor-level studies in Early Childhood Care and Education.

What will you study?

Modules

Digital Literacy
(6 credits)

Academic Literacy
(6 credits)

African Language Literacy
(6 credits)

**Foundations of Early Childhood
Care Education**
(12 credits)

**Play-based Learning and
Pedagogy**
(10 credits)

Educational Psychology
(10 credits)

Health, Safety, and Nutrition
(10 credits)

Planning a Curriculum
(15 credits)

Assessment in ECCE
(15 credits)

Practical Learning
(20 credits)

Total: 120 credits



Delivery and Learning Experience

The programme is delivered entirely online and designed to fit around the demands of working professionals. Students experience:

- Structured Online Modules — Each module features a clear study plan and weekly milestones within an eight-week cycle.
- Engaging Digital Materials — Content includes readings, multimedia elements, and formative assessments, all professionally developed.
- Applied Assignments — Tasks mirror real-world monitoring and evaluation scenarios, reinforcing practical learning.
- Self-Paced Study — Fully asynchronous format enables learners to study at times that suit their personal and professional commitments.
- Facilitator Feedback and Support — Regular guidance and constructive feedback are provided through online learning platforms to support progress and understanding.

This balanced approach ensures that students gain both theoretical understanding and practical abilities in Monitoring and Evaluation, in a flexible yet rigorous learning environment.

Graduate Opportunities

Graduates will be able to:

- Facilitate play-based learning environments that foster development in young children.
- Apply foundational literacy and language approaches influenced by cultural and African contexts.
- Support health, safety, and nutrition standards in early learning settings.
- Plan and assess effective, developmentally appropriate curricula.
- Complete practical learning in supervised settings, integrating theory and practice.

This qualification offers a professional foundation for roles in early childhood education and a stepping stone toward further qualifications in ECD.





About FPD

The Foundation for Professional Development (FPD), established in 1997, is one of South Africa's leading private higher education institutions. Recognised as the 3rd best private higher education institute in South Africa by the World Scholarship Forum, FPD has built a reputation for developing professionals who make meaningful contributions to business and society.

Begin your journey as a professional early childhood educator. Apply now and lay the foundation for a meaningful career in Early Childhood Care and Education.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#) ⓘ

Contact us

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