

Nashville State Community College

ECED Prior Learning Assessment

The Early Childhood Education Department at Nashville State Community College (NSCC) uses a portfolio assessment for candidates enrolled in the Technical Certificate/AAS degree program. Candidates interested in this option should submit the portfolio for review before the semester in which credit is being requested.

Eligibility: A candidate who has a current CDA credential, and at least 3 years of experience working in an early childhood education program is eligible to apply for advanced placement credits for up to two early childhood courses.

- ECED 1310 Introduction to Early Childhood Education
- ECED 2310 Safe, Healthy Learning Environments

The following criteria should be included in the candidate's portfolio:

- Cover Page with First and Last Name, A number, Program of Study, and Date
- Table of Contents
- Documentation of Knowledge and Experience
 - At least a 500-word typed statement communicating the candidates' understanding, and application of current evidence-based practices in an early childhood classroom setting. This should include specific examples of how the candidate applies the information in their current work with children and families.
The statement should include:
 - Understanding of child development; characteristics and needs, and multiple influences on development and learning for children birth to age eight
 - How to establish and maintain a safe, healthy, and challenging learning environment
 - Current knowledge and understanding of NAEYC Code of Ethical Conduct
 - How the candidate remains current in the field of early childhood education
 - Current Resume reflecting years of experience in an early childhood setting
 - Letter of Recommendation from current Early Childhood Supervisor
 - Copy of Current CDA Credential

A completed portfolio is submitted online as a pdf file. See the instructions below to complete the online submission process.

Follow these steps to submit your online application.

1. Go to <https://nsc.edu/current-students/student-records-and-forms.php>
2. Select number 19. Prior Learning Assessment Application
3. Sign In and Follow the Prompts to Answer Each Question
 - a. Select the School of Business and Professional Studies
 - b. PLA Type: Portfolio Assessment
 - c. Type which courses you are seeking credit for in the box and attach/upload the portfolio as a pdf file.

- d. Select the Degree you are seeking (Technical Certificate, Associates of Applied Science)
- e. Select Major (ECED)
- f. Sign and Submit Document

For more information contact the Program Coordinator.

Melissa Fleck

Program Coordinator/Associate Professor, Early Childhood Education

melissa.fleck@nsc.edu