

Early Childhood Education Diploma

Pathways for Newcomers to Canada Residing in Nova Scotia

Tuition-Free Online Option | Starting January 2027

Start date: January, 2027
Typical length: 3.5 years
Credential: Diploma
Location: eCampus (online asynchronous)

Start your application:
Scan the QR code to access the funding eligibility form or click this link

Learn while you work:

The Pathways Option is designed for newcomers to Canada residing in Nova Scotia who are currently working, or wish to work, as Early Childhood Educators (ECEs) in a llicensed child care centre or Pre-primary Program.

Program Overview:

- English Language Readiness Module: Before starting the ECE diploma courses, you will spend 16 weeks focusing on your English language skills in an online learning module.
- Language Proficiency: When you start the program, you must be able to demonstrate a Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB) 6 level and commit to achieving a CLB 8 by the end of the program.
- Flexible Learning: The program is a part-time asynchronous online, meaning there are no fixed class times. You can learn when it suits you best. Courses will follow a prescribed schedule.
- PLAR (Prior Learning and Recognition): If you already have prior learning and work experience as an ECE, you may receive credit for it through our PLAR process.

Funding:

Tuition, student fees, textbooks and other program costs are fully covered through funding from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

This program is made possible by contributions received through the Canada-Nova Scotia Early Learning and Child Care Agreement coordinated by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

Admission Requirements:

- High School Graduation Diploma or equivalent.
- Be a newcomer to Nova Scotia who is an immigrant, a refugee with protected person status, or a recent Canadian citizen and lived in Canada for less than five years.
  (Temporary foreign workers, international students, and individuals in Canada on a temporary resident visa are not eligible)
- Have a minimum of a Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB) 6 or higher level in all categories by the start of the program.
- Be currently employed in, or actively seeking employment in, a licensed child care centre or Pre-primary Program in Nova Scotia.
- Be able to work a minimum of 15 hours per week while enrolled in the ECE program and able to complete workplace learning experiences at your place of employment.

Priority admission will be given to those who have completed the Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia (ISANS) **Bridging the Gap program**.

Questions? Contact us:
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https://childcarenovascotia.ca/educators/future-educators/training

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