CENTENNIAL COLLEGE

NEW! Early Childhood Education – Tropicana Black Fast-track Stream*

Start Date: Fall 2026

Program Length: 2 years/4 semesters

Location: Tropicana Community Services at
1385Huntingwood Drive, Scarborough, ON M1S 3J1

Application Process: Complete the onlineformat mytropicana.ca/ECEapply

Questions: Call416-491-7000 or email ECEInfo@tropicanaemployment.ca

TUITION FREE!

*Note: This program is for Black, African, and Caribbean students

Program overview

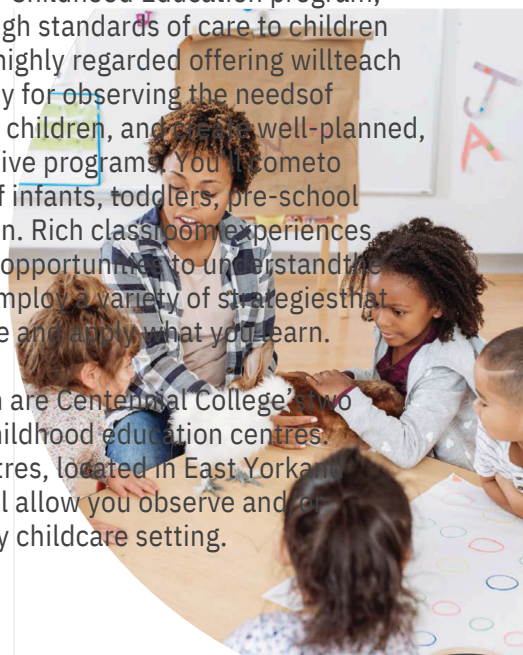
The Early Childhood Education (ECE) program at Centennial is committed to ensuring you'll be prepared to become a leader in the profession. A fully funded cohort of the ECE diploma is being run for Black learners in partnership with Tropicana Community Services. This cohort has been created for Black learners from the Greater Toronto Area. This opportunity is funded in partnership with the City of Toronto, the Province of Ontario and Government of Canada under the new Canada-Ontario Early Childhood Workforce Agreement, which provides one-time federal funding to support the retention and recruitment of a high-quality child care and early years workforce.

According to the College of Early Childhood Educators, Registered Early Childhood Educators:

- Design curriculum for child-centred, play-based learning
- Support children's learning and development by responding to their unique needs and interests
- Build caring relationships with children, families, and communities
- Create safe, healthy, and inclusive early learning environments

As a student in the Early Childhood Education program, you'll learn to provide high standards of care to children and their families. This highly regarded offering willteach you to take responsibility for observing the needsof individual and groups of children, and creating well-planned, stimulating and responsive programs. You'll cometo understand the needs of infants, toddlers, pre-school and school-aged children. Rich classroomexperiences will offer you a range of opportunities to understandthe content as professors employ a variety of strategiesthat will allow you to practise and apply what you learn.

Supporting this program are Centennial College's two state-of-the-art early childhood education centres. Used as labs, these centres, located in East Yorkand at Progress Campus, will allow you observe and practise in a high-quality childcare setting.



Program highlights

- You will complete your fully funded ECE diploma in two years. You'll experience practical experiential learning through three field placements in the community, working directly with infants or toddlers, pre-school and school-aged children
- Community placements to include Tropicana's two fully licensed child care centres
- Qualified and experienced supervisors will support you during the field placement to ensure your learning is optimized
- During the third or fourth semesters, opportunities will be available to work in full-day kindergarten environments
- In semesters 3 and 4, a block placement will be incorporated to maximize your ability to solidify skills
- This program is committed to respond to and reflect current trends and directions in the field and profession
- Highly skilled faculty will create stimulating learning opportunities in the classroom that will address a range of learning styles

Career outlook

Asagraduate from the Early Childhood Education program you will be qualified to:

- Work with children and families in childcare centres
- Work in full-day learning classrooms within the Boards of Education
- Work with children and families in drop-in centres, shelters and community service programs opening your own home childcare in accordance with legislative requirements

Admission requirements

- Students must be 19years or older

Academic requirements

- Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD), or equivalent, or mature student status (19 years or older)
- Grade 12 English (C or U), or equivalent (minimum grade required), or take a Centennial College English Skills Assessment for Admission

Additional requirements

- English language proficiency
- Prior to beginning each field placement, students are required to:
  - Obtain a clear police background check with vulnerable sector
  - Provide valid First Aid and CPR certificates before the beginning of the second semester
  - Provide a clear medical report including a TB test

Sample courses

- Micro-credentialprogram in Cultural Facilitation
- The Healthy Development of the Whole Child
- Observing Infant and Toddler Development
- Culturally Appropriate Child Care Curriculum Development for CBA children and families
- Observing Preschool and School-Age Development
- Understanding Communicating with Families
- Inclusion of Children with Special Needs
- Advocacy and the Emerging Professional

TORONTO

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How to apply

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