

SPRINGFIELD TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION TECHNICAL STANDARDS

Early Childhood Educators must demonstrate certain skills and abilities in order to assure the safety of the young children in their care and to provide the best possible learning environment for them. These essential program standards are expected, with or without reasonable accommodation, as part of Early Childhood Education (ECE) coursework as well as fieldwork, in preparation for a career in ECE.

PHYSICAL

ECE students must have:

- the visual and auditory acuity to successfully maintain a safe and dynamic learning environment
- the physical ability to run, bend, stand for extended periods of time, and to have the physical agility to perform tasks at different levels
 - the physical strength to lift, move and carry small children

COMMUNICATION

ECE students must have:

- the verbal ability to express themselves effectively to children, colleagues, administrators, parents and families
- the capability to comprehend the thoughts, ideas and concerns of others
 - the skills necessary to communicate clearly and effectively in writing
 - the skills necessary to understand written material

COGNITIVE

ECE students must have:

- the ability to problem-solve
 - critical thinking skills
- an understanding of the importance of decision making and the ability to make judgement calls under extreme circumstances

PROFESSIONAL

ECE students must have:

- the capability to establish positive relationships with colleagues, administrators, parents, and families
- a desire and ability to resolve conflicts and negotiate with others in order to maintain a positive environment
- the sensitivity to realize the importance of confidentiality in all aspects of working in a professional environment