



**South Central College  
Program Design**

## **AAS 3667/2550 Early Childhood Education - Mental Health**

### **Program Information**

**Instructional Level** Associate Degree

**Career Cluster** Human Services

### **Description**

The Early Childhood Education Mental Health Associate Degree program equips aspiring educators with the essential skills to nurture the mental well-being of young children. Spanning 60 credit hours, this comprehensive curriculum blends foundational knowledge in early childhood development with cutting-edge mental health principles. Students will learn to identify emotional and behavioral challenges in children, implement evidence-based interventions, and foster a supportive classroom environment. Graduates will emerge as compassionate advocates, ready to address mental health concerns in diverse educational settings, empowering the next generation for a brighter future.

### **Background Check Requirements**

Yes

### **Grade Policy**

A grade lower than a C may not be accepted for transfer by the receiving institution

### **Program Admission Dates (Fall and/or Spring)**

Fall

### **Program Location (North Mankato and/or Faribault)**

Online NM and FBO

### **Program Student Learning Outcomes**

- 1 Demonstrate understanding of early childhood development and its impact on mental health.
- 2 Apply evidence-based strategies for promoting positive mental health in early childhood settings.
- 3 Assess and identify early signs of mental health challenges in young children.
- 4 Develop individualized mental health support plans for young children.
- 5 Collaborate with families and interdisciplinary professionals to foster a holistic, culturally inclusive approach to early childhood mental health.

## Program Configurations

### Fall Start

#### Credits

Technical Course	40
Arts & Sciences	20

---

<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>60</b>
----------------------	-----------

#### Semester One

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Function
ECE 1205	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3	Technical Course
ECE 1220	Health, Wellness and Nutrition	3	Technical Course
ECE 1240	Diverse Children and Family Relations	3	Technical Course
ECE 1210	Child Growth and Development	3	Technical Course
ENGL 100	Composition	4	Arts & Sciences

#### Semester Two

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Function
ECE 1270	Creative Activities and Environments	3	Technical Course
ECE 1230	Behavior Guidance	3	Technical Course
HSER 1000	Introduction to Counseling	3	Technical Course
HSER 1020	Behavioral Interventions	3	Technical Course
PSYC 100	Introduction to Psychology	4	Arts & Sciences

#### Semester Three

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Function
ECE 1311	Infant/Toddler Development and Mental Health	3	Technical Course
ECE 2580	Observation and Assessment	3	Technical Course
ECE 2590	Introduction to Children's Mental Health	3	Technical Course
PSYC	Elective	4	Arts & Sciences

#### Semester Four

Course #	Course Title	Credits	Function
ECE 2570	Capstone	1	Technical Course
ECE 2310	Introduction to Special Education	3	Technical Course
ECE 2520	Children with Challenging Behaviors	3	Technical Course
PSYC 230	Abnormal Psychology	4	Arts & Sciences

SOWK 115	Social Welfare Services	4	Arts & Sciences
----------	-------------------------	---	-----------------

### Program Course List

Number	Title	Credits	Pre/Corequisites
ECE 1205	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	3	None
ECE 1210	Child Growth and Development	3	None
ECE 1220	Health, Wellness and Nutrition	3	None
ECE 1230	Behavior Guidance	3	None
ECE 1240	Diverse Children and Family Relations	3	None
ECE 1270	Creative Activities and Environments	3	None
ECE 1311	Infant/Toddler Development and Mental Health	3	ECE 1210
ECE 2310	Introduction to Special Education	3	ECE 1210
ECE 2520	Children with Challenging Behaviors	3	ECE 1210 and ECE 1230
ECE 2570	Capstone	1	
ECE 2580	Observation and Assessment	3	ECE 1210 and ECE 1230
ECE 2590	Introduction to Children's Mental Health	3	ECE 1210 and ECE 1230
ENGL 100	Composition	4	Next-Generation Accuplacer Reading minimum score of 250 (Classic Accuplacer, minimum of 75) or completion of READ 0090 or EAP 0095 with a C (2.0) or higher.
HSER 1000	Introduction to Counseling	3	None
HSER 1020	Behavioral Interventions	3	None
PSYC 100	Introduction to Psychology	4	None
PSYC 230	Abnormal Psychology	4	PSYC 100 OR PSYC 110 OR PSYC 140 OR Instructor Approval
PSYC	Elective	4	
SOWK 115	Social Welfare Services	4	ENGL 100