



The Child, Family and Education Studies (CFES) department of East Los Angeles College, empowers students to become effective educators, leaders of social change, and advocates for children, families, and the greater community. We strive to support students' educational, career, and personal goals that will lead them to serve diverse communities throughout the life span.

**A New Way to Complete Child Development Certificates**

The CFES Department is now offering more classes in an accelerated 8-week format than ever before. This pathway is our suggested timeline for students to pursue 3 certifications on their way to employment, as well as an AA degree/transfer. There is no acceptance needed, simply look at the classes you have already taken, and follow our roadmap to help you finish in as little as 3 semesters! If you would prefer taking full session courses, that is OK too! Students can take courses at their own pace and comfort level.



**Faculty and Advanced Practicum Students Complete Assessment Tools Trainings**

Last year Professor Rokeya Rahman had a vision. She looked to the future, and knew that our faculty and students needed more support and training on how to implement current assessment tools for early childhood educators. She dreamed that ELAC would be able to offer these trainings free of charge, and to invite as many students as possible. At the beginning of the 2020/2021 school year this dream became a reality. She successfully applied for, and received Perkin's funding to support this vision. Over 80 faculty and students have successfully completed an ITERS training, Safe Environments for COVID workshops, and ECERS training. These classes will set students up to be prepared for new employment, and will only further enhance teaching practices for our current faculty. Thanks to Professor Rahman's diligence, Assessment Tools in ECE can be added to our student's tool belt as they prepare to graduate and enter the workforce.



**Gerontology/Health Students Receive Free Activity Leader Class with State Certification**

"Activities are Medicine," Rebecca Birotte says over and over, as she begins her CDPH Activity Leader class early on a Saturday morning. She is in a live Zoom session with students from ELAC, who all look a little confused by her paradigm shift proposition. More than 60 students applied for a coveted spot in her class, as she educates and certifies students in a state-approved 36 hour course.

Once students are certified, they are able to attain employment in nursing care facilities, assisted living, and even group homes and programs for adults with special needs. Activity Leaders support both physical health and wellness and mental health by planning programming within a care setting. Some popular activities are exercise, creative expression, leisure games, and more. Truly, the scope of the job is endless, and with a big imagination Activity Programs can make or break a senior's experience in their later years. We want to set up every senior community with an Activity Leader that will meet the needs of the residents, focused on the whole-person approach. With senior care facilities growing in size and deemed essential, job opportunities in this field are plentiful. This semester, students who were taking courses toward the Gerontology/Health Certificate of Achievement were given priority, and we plan to apply again for the funding to continue to certify more Activity Leaders next year. Stay tuned!