Early Childhood

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Admission Requirements

Northeast Iowa Community College

Northeast Iowa Community College (NICC) reserves the right to deny admission, acceptance, participation and/or continued participation to the Early Childhood/Child Care programs per agency policy. Students in the Early Childhood/Child Care programs are required to comply with any and all policies and procedures created and implemented by the College and its field placement affiliates. Students are advised that any and all field placement locations associated with the College may deny admission to or remove any student placed in the facility if, at the discretion of the early childhood facility, the admission of the student or the continued presence of the student would present or continue a risk to the early childhood facility or any of the children served.

Program Requirements

Field Placement Requirements

Prior to beginning field placement, Early Childhood/Child Care program students must fulfill the requirements listed below:

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

- Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS) Child Care Provider
- Physical Examination Report (Form 470-5152)
- Immunization Review
- Tuberculosis (TB) Screening
- Overall Health Status
- Determination of Suitability for Childcare

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- American Heart Association Heartsaver Pediatric First Aid CPR or American Red Cross Pediatric First Aid/CPR/ AED
- Universal Precautions/Blood Borne Pathogens Training
- Confidentiality Agreement
- Mandatory Reporter for Child Abuse Training

DRUG TESTING

Students must present themselves free from the use of all illegal drugs, free from the use of non-prescribed prescription medications, free from the use and effects of alcohol and aware of the effects of legally prescribed medications. Students enrolled in the Early Childhood/Child Care program are required to submit and successfully pass pre-field placement and random drug screens.

Certification, Licensure and Employment

Certification and licensing bodies along with employers have their own background, health and drug testing requirements and will not make a determination on credentialing, licensor or employment until the time of application. Thus, even if you are able to complete the Early Childhood/Child Care program, the College has no control over credentialing agencies, licensing boards or employer decisions.

The College strongly encourages you to periodically check the appropriate credentialing, licensing and if applicable, employer websites to verify current standards and monitor changes to these standards. The background guidelines listed below were established based on Iowa Administrative Code (IAC), Human Services [441], Chapter 109 (**www.legis.iowa.gov/DOCSIOB-22-2072.Chapter.441.109**). Students identified as meeting the below criteria have the potential of being denied acceptance to any of the Early Childhood/Child Care programs.

Background Checks

Northeast Iowa Community College utilizes the Iowa Department of Administrative Services' Single Contact Repository (SING) for background checks. The SING check includes criminal history, child abuse, dependent adult abuse, sex offender and other public or civil offense record checks in Iowa. National record checks are completed based on fingerprints. These fingerprint-based checks are completed by the FBI, accessing the national criminal database. Each candidate's history will be evaluated by the College, and if applicable, the Iowa Department of Human Services. Until this evaluation is complete and approved, the student will be denied field experience in the Early Childhood program.

MANDATORY PROHIBITION

A person with the following convictions or founded abuse reports is prohibited from involvement with child care:

- Founded child or dependent adult abuse that was determined to be sexual abuse.
- Placement on the sex offender registry.
- Felony child endangerment or neglect or abandonment of a dependent person.
- Felony domestic abuse.
- Felony crime against a child including, but not limited to, sexual exploitation of a minor.
- Forcible felony.

MANDATORY TIME-LIMITED PROHIBITION

- Conviction of a controlled substance offense under Iowa Code Chapter 124.
- Founded child abuse that was determined to be physical abuse.

EVALUATION REQUIRED
For all other transgressions, and as requested under subparagraph 109.6(6)"f"(2), the department shall notify the affected person and the licensee that an evaluation shall be conducted to determine whether prohibition of the person's involvement with child care is warranted.

- The person with the transgression shall complete and return Form 470-2310, Record Check Evaluation, within 10 calendar days of the date on the form. The department shall use the information the person with the transgression provides on this form to assist in the evaluation. Failure of the person with the transgression to complete and return this form by the specified date shall result in denial or revocation of the license or denial of employment.
- The department may use information from the department's case records in performing the evaluation.
- In an evaluation, the department shall consider all of the following factors:
- The nature and seriousness of the transgression in relation to the position sought or held. The time elapsed since the commission of the transgression.
- The circumstances under which the transgression was committed.
- The degree of rehabilitation.
- The likelihood that the person will commit the transgression again.
- The number of transgressions committed by the person.

*While enrolled in any Early Childhood/Child Care programs at NICC, it is expected that students report all child abuse, dependent adult abuse, and/or criminal activity, in which they are involved, to the College within forty-eight (48) hours of the incident.

Orientation
Attendance at a mandatory program orientation (usually one week prior to the start of the program). Notice of orientation dates and times will occur after registration into the program courses.

Estimated Program Cost*

Expenses	Practical Nursing
Tuition/Fees	$7,781 in-state* | $8,897 out-of-state*
Background Check/Drug Testing	$60
Books	$1,200
Estimated Total Cost	**$9,041 in-state* | $10,157 out-of-state***

** These costs are provided as a guide to financing your education. All costs are estimates at time of publication, are subject to change without notice and do not reflect the exact cost a student may incur. All costs are based on the 2026-2027 tuition and fee rates.*

Resources

iowa.gov/nursing
discovernursing.com
castlebranch.com
bhw.hrsa.gov/funding/apply-loan-repayment/nurse-corps

Learn More

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It is the policy of Northeast Iowa Community College not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age (employment), sexual orientation, gender identity, creed, religion, and actual or potential parental, family or marital status in its programs, activities, or employment practices as required by federal and state civil rights regulations.
If you have questions, concerns or to read the full policy www.nicc.edu/nondiscrimination.