

Early Childhood Education

FAMILY CHILD CARE CERTIFICATE

Why study family child care?

You've always enjoyed children and have a great deal of patience and understanding for them. Whether you're a parent working from home or someone thinking about a career in child care, the Family Child Care (FCC) certificate program is a quick way to jump-start your career.

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WHAT TYPE OF CAREER CAN I EXPECT?

UFV has designed the Family Child Care certificate program in such a way that it can lead to a variety of options — in the workplace and/or further study. Many of our graduates start a family child care centre in their home, which allows them to stay home with their own young children and take in others. Some UFV graduates choose to use their FCC credential to work as child care assistants in larger child care centres. You may also opt to “ladder” your Family Child Care certificate into a more advanced UFV program, such as the Early Childhood Education certificate and diploma program, if you want to go on in the field of child care where you work outside the home. These jobs may include preschools, group daycares, consulting, or teacher's aide. Or you might plan to continue your education even further and earn your Bachelor of Arts degree in Child and Youth Care.



“UFV offers several distinctive programs to provide a number of options to students who are interested in careers with children, youth and families.”

— CHRISTINE PUDER,
department head, UFV Early
Childhood Education.

Early Childhood Education



“I found the Family Child Care program amazing and would recommend it to anybody who wanted to run a licensed family day care. I originally planned to take just one or two FCC courses before earning my ECE certificate, but I enjoyed them so much I decided to take them all. Not only is the content enjoyable, but so is UFV’s faculty.”

— COLLEEN MARSHALL, Family Child Care certificate graduate, 2005.

If you’re not sure you want to earn a full Early Childhood Education (ECE) certificate, then the Family Child Care certificate is a good place to start. The program is offered on a part-time basis, so you can juggle other responsibilities while you’re studying. Upon completion of this program, you will be able to understand:

- the caring aspects of Family Child Care
- a child’s development stages so that appropriate care can be provided
- appropriate activities and experiences for children
- basic issues in the areas of nutrition, health, and safety in childcare settings, focusing on a home environment
- the spectrum of actions and behaviours of children
- communication techniques and strategies for dealing with challenging behaviours
- the business aspects of family child care

Once you’ve completed the certificate and decide you’d like to take your career up a notch, you can then “ladder” into UFV’s ECE program — taking your six credits with you. You can also begin the Family Child Care certificate program while waiting for the next intake into the ECE program.

WHAT DO I NEED TO GET IN?

You’ll need a keen interest and commitment to working with young children. You also need to be in good physical and mental health. You must also be able to read and write at a post-secondary level.

In addition to classroom instruction you’ll be required to read and study outside of class for at least two hours a week. Guided observations require four hours per course.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

Fees are \$125 per course, including books. Fees are subject to change. You can always consult our Fees and Other Costs section in the online calendar at www.ufv.ca/calendar .

It’s worth a visit to the UFV Financial Aid and Awards office, which facilitates the disbursement each year of about \$12 million in federal and provincial student loans, grants, bursaries, scholarships, and awards to UFV students. A helpful budget planning worksheet is available online at www.ufv.ca/fineaid/budget .

WHAT KIND OF COURSES WILL I TAKE?

HERE'S AN OUTLINE OF THE PROGRAM:

| COURSE # | TITLE |
|--|---|
| FAM01: Introduction to Family Childcare | This course gives an overview of the whole Family Child Care Program, including goals and content. It introduces the individual to the mechanics of operating a Family Child Care as a home-based business. |
| FAM02: Understanding Child Development | This course provides an overview of the development of the individual from conception through adolescence. Particular attention is paid to the psychological, emotional, physical, moral, and intellectual development from birth to age twelve. This course will look at each of these areas from different theorists' perspectives. |
| FAM03: Understanding Children's Behaviour | This course will focus on the guidance and nurturing of young children based on an understanding of their behaviour. Family Child Care providers will have the opportunity to achieve competency in the development of strategies for interpersonal communication, child management, and the fostering of positive, emotional and social development of young children. |
| FAM04: Nutrition, Health, and Safety | This course will familiarize participants with the health, safety and nutritional needs of young children. It will emphasize how Family Child Care providers can offer a safe home environment that is consistent with the healthy growth and development of children. |
| FAM05: Planning Children's Experiences | This course offers Family Child Care providers practical knowledge in planning activities in terms of materials, space requirements, and time management. The focus will be on play-based activities which promote learning that is developmentally appropriate so that children's needs can be met on an individual basis. |
| FAM06: Operation of Family Childcare — and Administration/Parent Interaction | This course will emphasize the importance of seeing Family Child Care in a professional manner — as a business and a career. You will learn the details of administrative procedures necessary to deal with licensing, tax planning, parent/caregiver contracts, record keeping, household management, networking, and the operation of a business including liability insurance. |

ARE THESE COURSES TRANSFERABLE?

Yes. You can transfer six credits from this program towards your Early Childhood Education certificate if you choose to take that program. Contact the ECE/CYC department at 604-854-4580 for additional information on this laddering process.

SOUNDS GOOD. WHAT DO I DO NEXT?

Check out the Family Child Care certificate section of our online calendar at www.ufv.ca/calendar . An application is not required; you simply need to enroll in the courses. Course fees are due when you enroll. The schedule of the Family Child Care certificate program is available on our ECE/CYC website at www.ufv.ca/ece or in UFV's Continuing Studies booklet. You can also visit the Continuing Studies website at www.ufv.ca/cs .

WHAT KIND OF ASSISTANCE IS THERE TO HELP ME ADJUST?

Please visit www.ufv.ca/student-services to learn about the broad range of services designed to help you learn about and adjust to the university environment.

CAN I GET ACADEMIC CREDIT FOR THE SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE GAINED IN MY LIFE SO FAR?

Yes. UFV offers Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR), a flexible assessment process that evaluates your experiential learning (what you already know and can do) for post-secondary credit. Experiential learning includes independent study, volunteer activities, non-credit courses, workplace learning, and military service. To find out more, check out the PLAR website at www.ufv.ca/plar or contact Susan Brown, Assessment Services Coordinator, PLAR at 604.851.6342 or susan.brown@ufv.ca.

CAN I SPEAK WITH SOMEONE ABOUT MY OPTIONS?

Absolutely. We want to hear from you! If you're unsure of your direction, contact the Early Childhood Education department directly by calling 604-854-4580. You can also visit www.ufv.ca/ece for more information. Contact Student Services at 1-888-504-7441 to arrange a tour, attend a Becoming a Student info session, connect with an educational advisor, or arrange for career counselling.



The information contained in this document is subject to change. Please refer to www.ufv.ca/ece for up-to-date information. UFV reserves the right to cancel courses and programs.

www.ufv.ca/ece



About UFV

Nestled in the beautiful Fraser Valley just east of Vancouver, in B.C., UFV is a fully accredited, public university that enrolls more than 11,000 students each year. UFV has campuses in Abbotsford, Chilliwack, and Mission and regional centres in Hope and Agassiz, and a growing presence in Chandigarh, India.

UFV is committed to exceptional post-secondary instruction and a nurturing learning environment. We are large enough to offer variety, yet small enough to offer the personal attention that our students need to thrive. Our small class sizes and focus on teaching allow our students to get to know their instructors and learn in a hands-on setting.

We offer more than 80 programs, including 13 bachelor's degrees, a master's degree, and more than a dozen trades and technology programs. We believe that anyone who wants to go to university should be given the chance, so our admission policies are flexible, and we provide university prep courses and high school completion options. There are many options for learning: full-time, in class, online, as part of a structured program or one tailored specifically to your interests.

Many of our programs "ladder" into one another, allowing students to keep their options open. Our international programming makes for a culturally diverse student body and great opportunities to study abroad, while our continuing studies offerings make learning a lifelong experience.

UFV is recognized nationally for student success, an excellent learning environment, creative integration of programming, and our work with our local communities.

Get to know us better at www.ufv.ca.

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