

# REND LAKE COLLEGE



... setting the standard  
for leadership  
and excellence.



468 N KEN GRAY PKWY  
INA, ILLINOIS 62846

**REND LAKE COLLEGE**

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## ILLINOIS DIRECTOR CREDENTIAL LEVEL I



[www.rlc.edu](http://www.rlc.edu)

# Illinois Director Credential Level I

Why should anyone consider an Illinois Director Credential? The Director is the driving force impacting the quality of an early care and education program.

The Director hires and trains staff, selects and guides the implementation of the curriculum, assures sound fiscal management, establishes the environment and sets the tone for staff interactions, family involvement and community relations.

As the leader, the Director has the most influence on the success of the program, thereby enhancing the lives of children and their families.

## THE VISION . . .

The Illinois Director Credential will be recognized as the standard by which to measure the management and leadership capabilities of early care and education program directors and will serve as a symbol of individual professional achievement.

## THE PURPOSE . . .

The purpose of the Illinois Director Credential is to validate the achievement of competencies necessary for effective leadership and management of center-based early care and education programs.

## EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

*Associate in Applied Science Degree*

### First Semester (15 Cr. Hrs.)

CSCI 1101	Introduction to Computers	3
ECE 1201	Child Development	3
ECE 1202	Intro to Early Childhood Education	3
ENGL 1101	Rhetoric and Composition I	3
HEA 1102	Basic First Aid	2
CULA 1205	Food Sanitation	1

### Second Semester (18)

ECE 1206	Curriculum and Teaching Strategies for Young Children	3
ECE 1207	Language Arts for Young Children	3
ECE 1208	Family / Community / Staff Relations	3
ECE 1210	Child Study and Observation	3
MATH 1107	Contemporary College Math	3
MATH 1202	or Business Mathematics <sup>1</sup>	3
SOCI 2101	Social Problems	3

### Third Semester (18)

ECE 1209	Curriculum Lab <sup>2</sup>	3
ECE 2205	Programming / Teaching School-Age	3
ECE 2206	Program. / Teach. Infants and Toddlers I	3
ECE 2207	Child Guidance	3
ECE 2208	Teaching the Child with Disabilities	3
ECE 1205	Health, Safety and Nutrition	3

### Fourth Semester (16)

COMM 1101	Principles of Effective Speaking	3
ECE 1204	Creative Activities for Young Children	3
ECE 2202	Center-Based Child Care Mgmt.	3
ECE 2203	Science and Math for Young Children	3
ECE 2209	Practicum II <sup>3</sup>	4

DCFS background check and physical exam required.

<sup>1</sup> Enrollment based on results of test scores.

<sup>2,3</sup> Prerequisites required; consult advisor.

### COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

#### ECE 2210 – Leadership in Early Childhood

The emphasis in this course is on directing and leading early childhood programs. It includes strategies for organizational and financial management. An overview of effective leadership, professionalism and advocacy is outlined within the course.

#### ECE 2211 – Management in Early Childhood

The emphasis in this course is on directing and leading early childhood programs. It includes strategies for personnel management and program development. An overview of community outreach and marketing principles is included.

#### ECE 2212 – Director Practicum

This course provides an opportunity for the student to engage in practical experiences as a director of a center. Students work in a supervised child care setting where they assist the center director and perform the daily duties of a director.

# Rend Lake College / Director Credential

Directors receive a strong foundation in fundamentals of child development, early childhood education, school-age programming and infant/toddler programming to help guide instructional practices of teachers and support staff. Core skills provided:

- Historical / Philosophical Foundations
- Child Growth and Development
- Child Observation and Assessment
- Curriculum and Instructional Methods
- Children with Special Needs
- Family and Community Relationships
- Health, Safety and Nutrition
- Individual and Group Guidance
- Learning Environments
- Professionalism

Core competencies needed for effective early childhood/school-age program administration and met within the RLC Director curriculum:

- Personal / Professional Self-Awareness
- Legal and Fiscal Management
- Staff Management and Human Relations
- Educational Programming
- Program Operations and Facilities Management
- Family Support
- Marketing and Public Relations
- Leadership and Advocacy
- Oral and Written Communication Skills
- Technology

## THE PROCEDURE . . .

- Take classes leading to an AAS or AAT Degree in Early Childhood Education
- Complete application for Director Credential
- After completing minimum of 21 hours in the AAS Early Childhood Education program, students may enroll in Director Credential courses
- Provide management experience documentation (1,200 hours in early childhood) or take ECE 2212 – Director Practicum
- Submit documentation of professional contributions for approval. Examples provided must be within past three years. Students required to make contributions from two of the following areas:
  - ~ Service in a Leadership Role in a Professional Organization
  - ~ Presentations / Training
  - ~ Advocacy
  - ~ Program Improvement
  - ~ Writing and Publication
  - ~ Research / Grant Writing
- Complete all degree requirements, Director Credential courses, management experience and professional contributions before the Director Credential will be awarded.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

### REND LAKE COLLEGE Allied Health Division

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