



EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT (ECD) PRACTITIONER

FULL-TIME 2027

Weekday classes

STARTS 22 FEBRUARY

Orientation: 18 - 19 February

**Study material is included
in course fees**

Overview

If you have a passion for working with young children and want to make a meaningful impact on their early development, this Occupational Certificate: ECD Practitioner is an excellent choice. The programme provides comprehensive preparation for supporting children from birth to five years, equipping you with the knowledge, practical skills, and workplace experience required to work confidently in a variety of early childhood development settings.

You will develop the ability to plan and facilitate age-appropriate learning activities, create safe and stimulating environments, and support children's overall growth and development. The programme also focuses on observing and assessing developmental progress, promoting health and well-being, and building positive relationships with families and communities. With an emphasis on inclusive and play-based learning, you will be prepared to support children of diverse needs and contribute effectively to their cognitive, emotional, physical, and social development.

Admission requirements

Grade 12 or a National Certificate Vocational (NCV) at NQF Level 3 or any other NQF 3 qualification. Prior teaching experience is not required.

Who should study the programme?

- Individuals who want to build a career in early childhood development within crèches, preschools, daycare centres or home-based care environments.
- It is also well suited to teaching assistants, childminders, au pairs and nannies who wish to formalise or expand their knowledge of child development.
- In addition, it is a great option for school leavers, career changers, and those involved in community or NGO work who are passionate about working with young children.

Full-time course duration

1 year of theoretical and practical weekday classes, followed by a 6-month workplace component.

A part-time Saturday option is also available—speak to a Study Advisor for more information.

Fees and study material

Textbooks and study material are INCLUDED in our fees!

An **External Integrated Summative Assessment (EISA)** is required for this programme. This external assessment is conducted once all knowledge, practical and workplace components of the qualification have been successfully completed. Please note that the EISA is administered by the relevant authority and is not included in the course fees.

Course fees can be paid either in full or in convenient monthly instalments. Speak to a Unigrad Study Advisor for detailed information on fees and payment options. Unigrad College also partners with Student Hero and Capitec to offer funding solutions, visit

<https://www.unigradcollege.co.za/funding-options/> to learn more.



34 Ferreira Street, Mbombela | Nelspruit

WhatsApp Message 076 069 1993 | Phone: 013 755 3503

www.unigradcollege.co.za | info@unigradcollege.co.za

Career Opportunities

With this qualification, you can kickstart your career as:

- An ECD Practitioner in preschools, daycare centres or community programmes
- A Childcare Assistant in early learning environments
- A Home-Based Caregiver providing structured learning for young children
- A Support Worker in government or NGO-led early childhood programmes
- An Educational Facilitator supporting curriculum implementation and child development strategies

Benefit of this Programme

Successful students will achieve: A nationally recognised Occupational Certificate: Early Childhood Development Practitioner

- Hands-on experience working in real ECD environments
- The skills to plan, implement and manage early learning activities
- Knowledge to assess and support children's development
- Training in first aid for children and classroom management techniques

Certification

You are prepared to write the External Integrated Summative Assessment (EISA), set and administered by the QCTO. On successful completion of the EISA you will receive the **Occupational Certificate: Early Childhood Development Practitioner (SAQA ID: 97542, NQF 4)** awarded by the QCTO.



Unigrad College further recognises student achievement by awarding a Certificate of Completion for successfully completing the knowledge and practical components of the programme.

Accreditation

Unigrad (Pty) Ltd is accredited by the Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO) NATED/14/0054. The college is a registered examination centre with the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET No: 699990686).

External Integrated Summative Assessment (EISA)

The **EISA** is the final national assessment that must be successfully completed to be awarded the full Occupational Certificate by the Quality Council for Trades and Occupations (QCTO). Once all knowledge, practical and workplace components of the programme have been completed, students may be recommended for entry into this external assessment.

The EISA evaluates whether students have developed the required knowledge, skills and practical competence to perform effectively in a real working environment. Successful completion of this assessment confirms that the student meets the national standard for the qualification and is eligible to receive the Occupational Certificate.

Modules

- Introduction to the Early Childhood Development Sector
- Theories and Perspectives of Child Development
- Planning and Programme Development in Early Childhood Settings
- Facilitation and Mediation of Active Learning
- Observation and Assessment in Early Childhood Development
- Promotion of Health, Nutrition, Safety and Well-being of Children
- Administration for ECD Services and Programmes
- Build and Maintain Collaborative Relationships with Parents and Other Service Providers



34 Ferreira Street, Mbombela | Nelspruit

WhatsApp Message 076 069 1993 | Phone: 013 755 3503

www.unigradcollege.co.za | info@unigradcollege.co.za

Disclaimer

The information contained in this fact sheet is accurate at the time of printing. However, factors beyond the control of Unigrad (such as environmental, regulatory or technical changes) may cause the contents of this fact sheet, or of the programme to change. In the event of any such change, Unigrad will formally notify current students. All possible measures will be taken to minimise inconvenience to students.

I _____ (student/legal guardian), hereby acknowledge that I understand the information stated in this document and fully comprehend the specifics explained above pertaining to this programme.

Date: _____ Student/legal guardian signature: _____



34 Ferreira Street, Mbombela | Nelspruit

WhatsApp Message 076 069 1993 | Phone: 013 755 3503

www.unigradcollege.co.za | info@unigradcollege.co.za

VOTED THE NO.1 TERTIARY INSTITUTE IN MBOMBELA | QCTO ACCREDITED PRIVATE COLLEGE