

# What Can I Do With a Major in... **CHILD DEVELOPMENT**

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Those employed in the Child Development field offer care and education to children primarily under the age of five. You may also offer care to older children in extended day and after school programs. Employment areas include work in homes, schools and business settings, with individuals and groups.

## **What type of career can I have with this major?**

Since this major is so comprehensive, you will have a variety of excellent employment opportunities.

- After-School Teacher
- Arts Enrichment Program Coordinator
- Assistant Teacher
- Child Care Specialist
- Childcare Leader
- Day-Care Center Director
- Governess
- Home Care Aides
- Hospital Playroom Supervisor
- Planned Parenthood Worker
- Professional Nanny
- Recreation Specialist
- Social Service Assistant
- Special Education Teacher Aide
- Youth Service Worker

## **Where can I work?**

This profession provides you with a choice of various work environments including government agencies, non-profit organizations, for-profit agencies, and public and private companies.

- Adoption Agencies
- Businesses
- Churches/Religious Organizations
- Colleges and Universities
- Day-Care Centers
- Government Agencies
- Healthcare Facilities
- Private Homes
- Public and Private Schools
- Recreational Facilities
- Rehabilitation Organizations
- School Programs
- Social Service Agencies
- Youth Camps
- Youth Services Agencies

## **What type of professional organizations and resources are available in this industry?**

There are many professional organizations that offer resources, articles, job opportunities, training and conference information. We suggest you visit each organization's website to gather more information and contacts in your field.

- California State Department of Social Services
- California Commission on Teacher Credentialing
- Council for Professional Recognition (Child Development Credential Information)
- International Nanny Association
- National Child Care Association
- National Child Care Information Center
- State of California Child Development Permits

## **What type of Child Development program does San Diego Mesa College offer?**

The Child Development program at San Diego Mesa College prepares students for employment in early childhood and family support. Course and lab work focuses on human growth and development, preschool curriculum, and observation and assessment of children.

- Certificate of Performance: Assistant Teacher | Home Day Care
- Certificate of Achievement: Associate Teacher | Teacher | Master Teacher
- Associate in Science: Child Development

*See college catalog for program descriptions, course titles, and areas of emphasis.*

# Degree/Certificate/Permit in... **CHILD DEVELOPMENT**

## Associates Degrees/Certificates

### Getting Started

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- Step 1:** [Application](#) - Start by completing the online application for admission
- Step 2:** [Orientation](#) - Complete the online New Student Orientation (Flash player required)
- Step 3:** [Assessment](#) - Visit the Assessment office to learn about English and math testing
- Step 4:** [Advisement](#) - Complete the online First Semester Planning Workshop
- Step 5:** [Registration](#) - Register for classes

### While You're Taking Classes

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|--|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Update your resume and craft a cover letter  | Attend job fairs     | Conduct industry research    |
| Look into volunteer/internship opportunities | Perform job searches | Think about transfer options |
- See the Transfer or Career Center for assistance*

## Transfer Options

### Getting Started

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- Join a professional child development association as a student member
- Map out where you want to transfer for your child development Bachelor's degree

### Exploring your Emphasis/Concentration

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An emphasis provides child development majors an opportunity to explore a concentration within a broad degree. Unit requirements vary by institution. Most times declaring an emphasis is optional. Here are a few different emphases offered at surrounding universities:

- Early Childhood Development • Elementary School Settings • Adolescent/Youth Development • Family and Community Contexts • Child Development Specialist • Family Development Specialist • Secondary Education • Special Education

### Education Planning

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#### **Fall semester 1<sup>st</sup> year (1-15 units):**

- 1) Attend transfer workshops    2) Review articulation agreements    3) Map general education (GE) requirements  
4) Identify 4-year institutions to apply    5) Attend a Transfer Fair    6) Meet with a counselor

#### **Spring semester 1<sup>st</sup> year (16-30 units):**

- 1) Continue to attend transfer workshops    2) Check-in with a counselor to make sure your educational plan is on track  
3) Seeking tutoring assistance in the academic skills center to keep your grades competitive

#### **Fall semester 2<sup>nd</sup> year (31-45 units):**

- 1) Submit admissions applications to 4-year institutions: Fall for CSU/UC; Early spring for private and out-of-state institutions  
2) Identify deadlines and due dates for admissions transcripts and other documents

#### **Spring semester 2<sup>nd</sup> year (46-60 units):**

- 1) Identify deadlines and due dates for admissions transcripts and other documents    2) Submit your FAFSA between January 1<sup>st</sup>-March 1<sup>st</sup>.  
3) Turn in your deposit and registration forms to the institution you decide to attend.  
4) Attend the transfer orientation event(s) at your new campus    5) Complete academic coursework and transfer!

### While You're Taking Classes

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- Update your resume
- Prepare a cover letter
- Complete an internship in child development
- Build your network
- Maintain a strong GPA
- Hold a leadership position in an child development club/society
- Find a mentor
- Conduct informational interviews with individuals in your desired position(s)
- Visit your Career Center as much as possible!

### Child Development Permits

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- Child Development Assistant Permit • Child Development Associate Teacher Permit • Child Development Teacher Permit • Child Development Master Teacher Permit • Child Development Site Supervisor Permit • Child Development Program Director Permit

Visit the following site to learn more: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/creds/child-dev-permits.html>