How To Enroll

STEP 1 You may apply online at www.cabrillo.edu. If you have any questions, contact the Cabrillo College Admissions & Records Office in Building 100 of the Aptos campus located on 6500 Soquel Drive, phone (831) 749-6201; or in Watsonville on 318 Union Street, phone (831) 786-4701.

STEP 2 You will receive registration information in the mail including your time to begin registering.

Who May Enroll

Cabrillo College is open to anyone 18 years of age or older, or anyone with a high school diploma or proficiency certificate. High school students also may attend classes at Cabrillo on a limited basis with the permission of their high school principals.

Nondiscrimination Policy

Cabrillo Community College does not discriminate on the basis of ethnic group identification, national origin, religion, age, sex, race, color, physical or mental disability, or sexual orientation in any of its policies, procedures, or practices. This nondiscrimination policy covers admission and access to, and treatment and employment in, the college's programs and activities, including vocational education programs. Limited English language skills will not be a barrier to admission to and participation in vocational education programs.

Plan De Acción No Discriminatoria

Cabrillo Community College no discrimina bajo de identificación con grupos étnicos, nacionalidad de origen, religión, edad, sexo, raza, color, incapacidad mental o física ni orientación sexual en ninguna de sus reglamentaciones, procedimientos o prácticas. Este plan de acción no discriminatoria incluye la admisión y el acceso a los programas y actividades, y el tratamiento y el empleo en los mismos, incluyendo la educación vocacional. Teniendo limitadas destrezas en el idioma inglés no constituirá una barrera para ser admitido o participar en los programas de educación vocacional.

Early Childhood Education

“I had thought child rearing was just to take care of children and keep them busy. I know now that children are individuals and need to be respected. I really appreciate how the people in the ECE department at Cabrillo think about children. Through them I have learned how to communicate with children and understand my own children better.”

— Martha Fregoso

Want to change and care for the world?

Early Childhood Education is a profession full of purpose and personal reward. Research is clear that children who attend high-quality early childhood education programs are more likely to be ready for school and for life. Come and learn to be one of the high quality professionals working with young children today.

Early Childhood Education provides a wide array of career opportunities for working with children and their families.

These opportunities include becoming a:

- preschool teacher
- infant/toddler caregiver
- site supervisor
- small business owner
- nanny
- parent educator and more

Every effective early care and education program includes the following components:

- Developmentally appropriate practice supporting children’s development and learning.
- Parent involvement encouraging families to share their knowledge and to learn and grow in their understanding of their child.
- Supportive services provided to children and their families.

Martha Fregoso (ECE student) was enrolled in English classes when she found out that Cabrillo offered an Early Childhood Education Program. Although she was balancing her family life and school, Martha decided to enrich her natural love of children with a formal education.
Infant/Toddler Caregiver

“Babies need social interactions with loving adults who talk with them, listen to their babblings, name objects for them, and give them opportunities to explore their worlds.”
— Sandra Scarr, former psychology professor

Good infant care is neither baby-sitting nor preschool. It is a special kind of care that resembles no other.

Infant/toddler care is based on relationship planning, not lesson planning. Child-directed learning is emphasized over adult-directed learning.

High quality infant/toddler care begins with caregivers who get “in tune” with each infant they serve. A meaningful connection with the child’s family allows caregivers to understand each child’s family culture and to learn what each child needs are, what s/he is thinking and what s/he is feeling. Infant/toddler teachers give tender and loving care to children in their care and assist in the children's cognitive, social, emotional and physical skill development.

Preschool Teacher

“To take children seriously is to value them for who they are right now rather than seeing them as adults-in-the-making.”
— Alfie Kohn, author and parenting expert

Children are amazing—excited, curious, and fascinated about exploring and learning about the world. Are you eager to be part of children's growth and development?

Preschool teachers introduce three- to six-year-old children to the world of school. Preschool teachers encourage children's learning through play and interactive activities. They design the environment and create developmentally appropriate and play-based activities to encourage children’s development of language and vocabulary, enhance children’s social skills, develop their physical motor skills, and help them learn basic science and math concepts. Preschool teachers help children learn how to cooperate, provide learning activities that are relevant and appropriate for preschool age children, keep children safe, work as part of a team with other teachers and develop meaningful relationships with children’s families.

Being a preschool teacher is a challenging and tremendously rewarding career. Some of the things you need to be successful as a preschool teacher are: passion for children and life, organization skills, determination, and a heart for children and families.

Family Child Care Provider

Young children thrive in stable long-term relationships with the same caregiver. An optimal place is in the comfort of a home environment and in small groups where each child’s needs can be met.

Family child care providers are independent, self-employed small business owners who care for and educate small groups of children in their homes. They assume one of society’s most important roles and responsibilities — that of caring for our youngest children.

A family child care provider can hold either a small or a large license. Most family child care programs have a small license providing care for 6-8 children and some family child care programs have a large license providing care for 12-14 children. They may provide care for infants and toddlers, preschool and school age children. Family child care providers decide whether to offer care for a particular age group or a mixed age group. Family child care providers may offer before and after school care, and some offer care during non-traditional hours including early morning, late evening, weekends and holidays.