

# Researching and Choosing a School

*Updated July, 2017*

This section is to help you determine what school best suits your learning style and training needs. It is your responsibility to investigate all of the available courses in your chosen field. If available, gather the information from a minimum of three schools and indicate which one you have chosen.

These questions will help you make the best choice when researching a training provider.

## School Description

### School: Fanshawe College

Contact person: Office of the Registrar, Phone: 519-452-4277

- Is this school registered as a Private Career College in Ontario? **No**
- If no, please explain: **Publicly funded college**
- Is this course eligible for OSAP funding? **Yes**
- Is this training provider certified to give T2202A tuition tax receipts? **Yes**

## Program/Certificate Information

### Program Name: Early Childhood Education

This is a two-year Ontario College Diploma Program.

This program blends theory with hands-on application of theoretical principles delivered through course work and field practicum. Students in this program will develop their knowledge and professional skills in areas such as child development and best practices in early childhood; the early childhood educator's role and responsibilities; the importance of play in children's learning; family involvement and curriculum design and implementation.

When the student graduates they will have the knowledge and necessary skills to work with children, families and community in the context of early learning and development programs for children from birth to age 12. The student will be prepared to work in a

variety of settings, including child care centres, early learning and family centres, Best Start programs, before and after school programs and with school boards.

## **Program Eligibility Criteria**

### **Admission Requirements for 2017/2018**

- OSSD with courses from the College (C), University (U), University/College (M), or Open (O) stream WITH:
  - Any Grade 12 English (C) or (U)

OR

- Academic and Career Entrance Certificate (ACE)

OR

- Human Services Foundation Ontario College Certificate AND:
  - standing in the required course stated above

OR

- Ontario High School Equivalency Certificate (GED)

OR

- Mature Applicant with standing in the required course stated above

### **English Language Requirements**

Applicants whose first language is not English will be required to demonstrate proficiency in English by one of the following methods:

- A Grade 12 College Stream or University Stream English credit from an Ontario Secondary School, or equivalent, depending on the program's Admission Requirements
- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) test with a minimum score of 550 for the paper-based test (PBT), or 79 for the Internet-based test (iBT), with test results within the last two years
- International English Language Testing System (IELTS) test with an overall score of 6.0 with no score less than 5.5 in any of the four bands, with test results within the last two years

- Canadian Academic English Language (CAEL) test with an overall score of 60 with no score less than 50 in any of the four bands, with test results within the last two years
- An English Language Evaluation (ELE) at Fanshawe College with a minimum score of 70% in all sections of the test, with test results within the last two years
- Fanshawe College ESL4/GAP5 students: Minimum grad of 80% in ESL4/GAP5 Level 8, 75% in ESL4/GAP5 Level 9, or 70% in ESL4/GAP5 Level 10

### **Recommended Academic Preparation**

- Grade 11 Raising Healthy Children (O)
- Grade 11 Working with Infants and Young Children (C)
- Grade 12 Challenge and Change in Society (U)
- Grade 12 Families in Canada (C) or (U)
- Grade 12 Human Development Throughout the Lifespan (M)

### **Recommended Personal Preparation**

- Students should develop leadership experience in schools, churches, community and special activity interests appropriate to preparation for this field.
- Knowledge of and interest in this field plus good writing skills.
- Visitation to or experience in early childhood settings for observation purposes is highly recommended.

### **Applicant Selection Criteria**

Where the number of eligible applicants exceeds the available spaces in the program, the Applicant Selection Criteria will be:

1. Preference for Permanent Residents of Ontario
2. Receipt of Application by February 1st (After this date, Fanshawe College will consider applicants on a first-come, first-served basis until the program is full)
3. Achievement in the Admission Requirements

### **Note:**

- Admission to the Fanshawe College Human Services Foundation program does not guarantee admission in a subsequent year to the Early Childhood Education program. Successful completion of the Fanshawe College Human Services

Foundation program, however, does enable the student to be given additional consideration when applying to the Early Childhood Education program. The Human Services Foundation program is the preferred designated preparatory program for admission to the Early Childhood Education program.

### **Post-Admission Requirements**

The following items are applicable to the program and are time sensitive. Please refer to [www.fanshawec.ca/preplacement](http://www.fanshawec.ca/preplacement) for important information about preparing for placement by the due date.

- Possession of a Standard First Aid course certificate (either St. John Ambulance or Canadian Red Cross or equivalent) and a Basic Rescuer course certificate (Level "C" CPR)
- Evidence of Good Health
- Police Record Check and Vulnerable Sector Screening, including a check of the Pardoned Sexual Offenders Database
- Placement Agreement

### **Other Information**

- Certification by the Association for Early Childhood Educators, Ontario may be applied for after completion of the program. The certification process involves the completion of a personal profile and successful completion of a certification examination.
- Students are required upon graduation and prior to working as an Early Childhood Educator to join the College of Early Childhood Educators ([www.collegeofece.ca](http://www.collegeofece.ca)).
- Students who graduate from this program and wish to transfer to another Human Services program at Fanshawe College may qualify for some internal credits that have already been achieved.
- Graduates of this program, once they have completed a bridge program, can enter into level 5 of the Bachelor of Early Childhood Leadership degree program at Fanshawe College.
- Students registering in this program at the Clinton Site should be aware that all four academic Levels are delivered continuously from September to December; there is no break between Level 2 and Level 3.

## Course Details

- London, Clinton and St. Thomas Campuses
- Program start date: **September 2017**
- Program end date: **April 2019**
- Is this start date flexible? **No**
- Program length (# Weeks): **60 weeks (4 x 15)**
- Number of hours per week: **varies, up to 29 hours**
- Schedule of hours: **classes and field practicum concurrently M-F (8 am – 6 pm)**
- Other upcoming start dates: **January 2018 – December 2019**

## Cost of Training Course/Program:

Cost of training course/program (Based on 2017/2018 Tuition Fees):

Item	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Tuition/Fees	\$2,083.40	\$2,083.40	\$2,083.40	\$2,083.40
Books	\$548.00	\$260.00	\$239.00	\$288.00
<i>Expendable Supplies:</i>				
Resource material	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$170.00	\$170.00
<i>Other Expenses:</i>				
Vulnerable sector screen (OESC); Update of OESC	\$60.00	\$0	\$60.00	\$0
PARAMED (pre-placement clearance)	\$40.00	\$0	\$40.00	\$0
First Aid/CPR; Recertification of CPR	\$100.00	\$0	\$100.00	\$0
Physical exam (health standard forms)	\$100.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Professional Association Exam Fee: Upon graduation the student must join the College of ECE	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$225.00
<i>Optional Expenses (not included above):</i>				
Shirt for placement	\$0	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$0
<i>Other:</i>				
OCAS application fee	\$95.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$3,176.40</b>	<b>\$2,518.40</b>	<b>\$2,717.40</b>	<b>\$2,766.40</b>

**Total Cost: \$11,178.60**

**Note:** Tuition fees are billed per term. A \$500.00 non-refundable deposit will be required once per academic year. Making your deposit by the due date will confirm and secure your spot and registration in the program. The balance of fees will be due by the 10<sup>th</sup> day of class for standard start date programs. A \$150.00 late fee will apply should fees not be paid in full by the 10<sup>th</sup> day of class.

**Admission related fees, when applicable:**

English Language Evaluation Test (ELE) - **\$60.00**

- For applicants for whom English is not their first language.

Subject Challenge Exams - **\$75.00**

- Challenge Exams are used for admissions purposes:
  - When an applicant has completed the learning, but does not have proof of a grade (i.e., English, Math, Chemistry, Biology, and Physics). The challenge exam shows that the individual has the skill set that meets the minimum grade requirement.
  - When an applicant has completed the learning, but does not meet the minimum grade requirement.
- ***Challenge exams cannot be used in lieu of a subject requirement when prior learning has not been completed.***

## Evaluating the School/Follow-up Questions

1. Did you meet the instructor or instructors prior to selecting this school? Please explain.

2. Have you contacted local employers to see if the training is acceptable to them?

Yes             No

3. Does this school have a solid reputation in the community?

Yes. Fanshawe College is one of 24 publicly funded Community Colleges in Ontario and is one of the largest colleges in Ontario.

4. Are the standards and licenses recognized by Governments and Occupational Associations?

Yes.

## Questions to Ask the School

Answers have been already provided for you to the questions listed below.

1. What are the methods of instruction and time spent on each?

Each course has a variety of methods of instruction; however, the specific methods and how much time spent will differ per course.

2. What certification will you get upon completion of this course?

ECE Diploma.

3. Please explain how your progress will be monitored and reported (method and frequency).

Evaluations from instructor including, but not limited to tests, assignments, quizzes.

4. How many hours of home study are expected per week?

10 – 15 hours.

5. Are detailed course descriptions available to prospective students? If YES, obtain copies and include with Training Research Guide.

Yes.

6. What resources are available if you require additional help while in training?

Fanshawe College offers a wide range of student services to support your success at college:

- English and Math tutoring
- Peer Tutors to assist students having difficulty in a specific course
- Study skills workshops and tutoring offered throughout the year for learners who need to brush up on academic skills
- Personal, academic and career counselling is available to all students
- Specialized support services for mature students
- A full range of services and academic accommodations to support the success of students with disabilities
- Help with job finding strategies, résumé and cover letter assistance, and job interview skills. A job bank lists full-time and part-time opportunities

In addition, the following services are available to all students:

- A full-service Library/Resource Centre, including a Virtual Library for easy 24/7 access and media loans
- Financial Aid Office, including bursary assistance
- Awards and Scholarships

7. What percent of students who are enrolled in the course successfully complete it?

75%.

8. What academic counseling is available prior to starting school and during the training period?

Staff offers pre-admission planning and academic advice and information for those considering admission to Fanshawe College.

Fanshawe College has a Student Success Advisor in every school and campus who is dedicated to helping students achieve academic success. Student Success Advisors can discuss program progression as well as helping students connect with tutoring, study skills workshops and other academic supports. In addition, due to their close ties with faculty they are notified about students experiencing academic challenges early in the program.

9. How does the school accommodate the needs of adult learners?

The College has considerable experience with adult learners and has specialists available to assist learners with study skills, success strategies, learning and other disabilities. Program coordinators are familiar with the needs of adult learners and will provide assistance to students on a one to one basis.

10. What are the qualifications of the instructor(s)?

Master's Degrees and Bachelor Degrees.

11. Do students have the opportunity to evaluate the instructor and the course?

Yes. Instructional feedback surveys are completed for each course.

12. Does the institution have publicized policies dealing with human rights issues?

Yes.

13. Are you allowed to audit a few classes?

Yes, with a fee.

14. Will the school provide references (e.g., signed release forms, past graduates and/or current students)? If not, why?

Only from faculty who have seen the student in practice.

15. Will there be a practicum or work placement?

Yes.

16. How does the institution support continuing education/upgrading for graduates in this field of work?

Career Programming for Adult Learners and In a Day Workshops are available through the course guide.

17. How does the institution make an effort to place its graduates in jobs after completion of the program?

Job Connect and Career Services works with graduates to help them achieve meaningful employment.

18. What percentage of graduates from this training find work in a field related to their training?

According to our Key Performance indicators, 92% of Fanshawe College Graduates achieve employment after they have completed their studies.

19. List employers who hire graduates from this course.

All early childhood centres, parenting centres, Ontario Early Years centres, School Boards.

20. How will the credentials you receive be recognized by the industry/employer/sector?

Fanshawe College is well recognized across Ontario and across Canada and has been in business since 1967. As one of the largest Community Colleges in Ontario our graduates are sought after by employers. Fanshawe College is the largest Cooperative Education College in Canada and as such has strong linkages with employers in the communities it serves. All Fanshawe Programs are evaluated by employers every 3-5 years.