

# ASSISTANT OF CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Certificate Program | Department of Education and Academic Literacy

## Program Description

This certificate program responds to the current demand for trained practitioners at learning centers and public schools that serve children who have special needs. The population served includes children with behavior management needs, limited mobility, physical impairments, diagnosed learning disabilities, and/or children waiting for a very restrictive service. BCC students will learn the characteristics and needs of children with special needs in order to provide age-appropriate strategies in all aspects of their work with these children. Students will acquire skills in designing and planning activities that are developmentally appropriate experiences for children with special needs. Upon successful completion of the program, students will be able to continue their studies in Bronx Community College's Education Associate AAS Degree Program, and all of the certificate course credits will be accepted for this AAS degree.

This program also prepares students to qualify for the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential offered by the Council for Professional Recognition. Additional requirements must be met to obtain the CDA. For more information, students should contact the BCC Career Path Program at 718-289-5691.

## Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the Assistant of Children with Special Needs program requirements, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of theory in early childhood/childhood and adolescent development.
2. Apply observational skills to assess early childhood, childhood development.
3. Communicate effectively through oral, written, and/or technological means to support teaching and effective partnerships with families and school communities.
4. Identify environments that support a safe, healthy learning environment for all children.
5. Apply developmentally appropriate pedagogical techniques and classroom management strategies to meet the needs of all learners in any of the following: reading, writing, technology, meeting the needs of exceptional learners, English Language Learners, bilingual learners, and/or creative experiences in early childhood/childhood learning environments.

## ASSISTANT OF CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

30 Credits required for Certificate

Curriculum Coordinator: Dr. Tonya Johnson

### Semester I

- PSY 11 Introduction to Psychology (3 Credits)
- ENG 110 Fundamentals of Composition and Rhetoric  
*OR* ENG 111 Composition and Rhetoric I (3 Credits)
- HLT 91 Critical Issues in Health (2 Credits)
- EDU 10 Child Study - Birth to Grade 6 (3 Credits)
- EDU 30 Introduction to Special Needs, Schools and Society (3 Credits)
- Free Elective (1 Credit)

**TOTAL 15**

### Semester II

- COMM 11 Fundamentals of Interpersonal Communication (3 Credits)
- PSY 41 Psychology of Infancy and Childhood (3 Credits)
- EDU 26 Human Relations in Urban Schools (3 Credits)
- EDU 31 Introduction to Learning Disabilities and Inclusive Education (3 Credits)
- EDU 40 Field Work Seminar (3 Credits)

**TOTAL 15**

Information on gainful employment may be found at <http://www.bcc.cuny.edu/Gainful-Employment-Disclosure/>.