

Essential Skills

Helping Path – Early Childhood Education

This career path focuses on caring for and instructing infants, toddlers, pre-school, and early elementary aged children in activities to promote social, physical, and intellectual growth. Additional responsibility for the design and implementation of educational programs and services.

Helping Path – Early Childhood Education Programs at Great Oaks

Program	Location
Early Childhood Education	Laurel, Live, Scarlet

Frequently Used Pathway Skills/Abilities

Each career path has a specific set of skills/abilities that employees need for success in the industry. It is recommended that students have, are developing or can develop the skills/abilities listed below.

Sharpness of vision/hearing acuity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Distinguish details and differences visually• Differentiate various sounds• Perceive distance/depth of objects in space
Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Express/explain thoughts and ideas• Observe/document/maintain/update accurate student records• Listen and relay accurate information in written/verbal manner• Interact with small children to convey information effectively• Use active listening to give full attention/understanding to others• Social perceptiveness – aware/understanding of others' reactions• Social communication (appropriate social media/workplace conversations)
Physical mobility/strength Eye-hand coordination/dexterity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stoop/bend/walk/carry items safety• Monitor/use equipment/materials to keep children safe• Work near children/adults• Supervise children in various educational areas (playground and classroom)• Organize/supervise fine/gross motor activities
Problem-solving/reasoning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Follow sequenced activities accurately• Work independently with minimal supervision• Apply general rules to specific problems• Develop/follow procedures and processes• Make informed decisions quickly• Remain calm in stressful situations• Plan/implement developmentally appropriate experiences• Identify/report children showing signs of emotional/developmental/health problems• Awareness of surrounding to keep children/adults safe

Technology and Software

All Career Tech programs utilize various software and industry-specific equipment to prepare students for careers. Students will independently access and use various online resources, technology, and equipment.

Here is an overview of key online and computer technology used in this pathway:

Vendor	Software/Learning Management System
Ohio Professional Registry	Ohio Child Care Resource and Referral Association
Microsoft Office	Word, PowerPoint, Excel and Outlook
Internet Browsing	Conduct career-related independent and group research

Industry Credentials/Certifications

Credentials/certifications demonstrate knowledge and skills in a specific career pathway. They are typically earned by successfully completing an exam training program. Exams are developed by industry professionals, not high school educators, and are used to verify that students have the skills needed for work.

Students can earn industry credentials/certifications while at Great Oaks. Accommodations are available but are subject to vendor or State of Ohio approval. Typical accommodations for industry-related credentials/certifications include:

Extended time

Post-secondary

Great Oaks offers college credit courses in both academic and career technical programs.

College Credit Plus (CCP) • The CCP program provides Ohio high school students an opportunity to complete college courses and earn transcribed credit.

Career Technical Assurance Guides (CTAGs) • CTAGs award college credit for career-technical coursework to students who complete an approved course and earn a qualifying score on the end of course exam.

Articulated Credit • Some Great Oaks career-technical programs have agreements with colleges where students can earn credit toward a specific degree.

Additional Pathway Considerations

Some career pathways have additional standards students must meet to fully participate in Great Oaks programs. Programs in this pathway have some of the following requirements to participate in learning experiences and earn industry credentials/certifications.

Academic strengths

- Anatomy/chemistry
- Math/numerical data (count/measure/compute)
- Oral/written communication
- Reading
- Artistic expression

Identification/background check • Require a state-issued photo ID (or school issued photo ID)

Ohio Department of Job & Family Services (ODJFS)
Ohio Department of Education (ODE)
requirements to participate in Field Experience

- Level 1
 - Complete and pass Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification (BCI) and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) background checks
 - Complete and sign ODJFS medical form signed by a physician (physical examination)
 - Complete and pass First Aid and CPR training (adult, child, and infant)
 - Complete ODJFS Child Care Orientation through the Ohio Professional Registry housed at the Ohio Child Care Resource and Referral Association (OCCRRA)
- Level 2
 - Complete ODJFS Communicable Disease Preventions for Childcare Professionals course
 - Complete Ohio Children's Trust Fund Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention course

Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential

- Complete 480 hours of field experience
- Prepare and complete a CDA professional portfolio
- Work with a CDA specialist
- Schedule as CDA verification visit
- Pass CDA examination