



1. Catalog description of the program (program goals and objective)

The mission of De Anza College's Child Development and Education program is to prepare early childhood educators and specialists who are attuned to the needs of child from diverse linguistic, cultural, and levels of abilities. The program supports those seeking entry-level employment as classroom aides and teacher's assistants; as well as those future early childhood educators and child development center administrators. All students in the program take a core of courses that give them a foundation in developmental psychology and effective practices in working with young children and their families. After completing foundation courses, students can opt for courses in more specialized areas, such as techniques for working with English-language learners, facilitating inclusion of children with disabilities, and early childhood mental health.

De Anza College's Child Development and Education program is affiliated with the college's Child Development Center, which serves as a lab/practicum site for program students. Child Development faculty are active in local and regional advisory groups that determine and implement "best practices" in early childhood education, including First 5, Santa Clara County Health and Hospital System, Kids Connections, and the Warmenhoven Institute of Inclusion. The Child Development and Education recently completed comprehensive review and improvement initiative in advance of applying for accreditation of the Associate in Arts degree program by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

2. Certificate and degree programs offered (title and units)

Certificate of Achievement – **Child Development** – 23-25 units (quarter)
Certificate of Achievement – **Early Childhood Mental Health** – 20 units
Certificate of Achievement-Advanced – **Child Development** – 38 units
Certificate of Achievement-Advanced – **Early Intervention/Special Education Assistant** – 41 units
A.A. Degree – **Child Development** – 52 units plus General Education

3. Program-level Student Learning Outcomes

4. Data on certificate and degree awards for previous year (2009-10)

Certificates of Achievement

Child Development – 49 awards
Early Childhood Mental Health – 6

Certificates of Achievement-Advanced
formerly Certificates of Proficiency

Child Development – 8
Early Intervention/Spec. Ed. Asst. – 1

Associate in Arts degrees

Child Development – 7

5. Regional and State Labor Market Data

The employment prospects for early childhood educators and other affiliated professionals and support personnel are expected to be strong. The California Employment Development Department's Labor Market Information 2006-2016 projections for the San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara MSA indicate 100 annual openings for preschool teachers and 170 for teacher assistants, with annual growth rates of 7.8% and 7.6% respectively. Similarly, there is a significant demand for child care workers, with 189 projected annual openings. The statewide projections for 2008-2018 are good for preschool teachers with 1,770 anticipated annual openings and 5,580 annual openings for teacher assistants. This translates into a growth rate of over 11%.

Statistics are not yet available for the mental health and early intervention fields that are growing rapidly because of FIRST 5 programs and recent mental health legislation targeting the early years. The following is a list of the new proposed job titles for individuals with expertise in early childhood mental health: Early Childhood Family Partner, Early Childhood Social and Human Services Assistant, Early Childhood Community and Social Service Specialist, and Early Interventionist. Locally, FIRST 5 employs forty-seven (47) and contracts with forty-two (42) family services agencies, most of whom are potential students.

6. Areas for new course and/or program development

7. Recommendations of Advisory Committee (retain or delete program)