

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
BACHELOR IN EDUCATION EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT
& FAMILY STUDIES

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Q 1. What are the required qualifications for this programme?

- **OPTION 1**

(a). As entrants with CXC, CSEC & GCE qualifications having: an acceptable pass in CXC, CSEC Mathematics or its equivalent; AND

An acceptable pass in CXC, CSEC English A; AND

One of the following minimum qualifications:

Either five subjects (at least two GCE A Level or CAPE) and the remainder acceptable passes in CXC, CSEC or GCE O' Level; or

Four subjects (at least three GCE A Level or CAPE) and the fourth an acceptable pass in the CXC, CSEC or GCE O' Level

Grade requirements for CXC/CSEC subjects are General Proficiency, Grades 1 or 2 pre-1998 and Grades 1, 2, or 3 from June 1998.

- **OPTION 2**

(b). Holders of five (5) CXC, CSEC or GCE O' Level passes or equivalent, not necessarily obtained at the same sitting.

- **OPTION 3**

(c). Entrants with a Diploma, Certificate or UWI or another approved Caribbean tertiary level institution, having attained a B+ average or a minimum GPA of 2.5. Graduates of the existing Two-Year Early Childhood Certificate may receive special permission for exemption from degree courses where courses completed in the certificate are identical or equivalent to Level 1 degree courses.

EXEMPTIONS

Q 2. Are exemption from courses offered if I have completed a UWIOC Pre-University ECCE Certificate?

YES! Exemptions are offered for four (4) level 1 courses (**ECFS1001, ECFS1002, ECFS1006 & ECFS1007** and one (1) level 2 course **ECFS2003**) if you have **completed** UWIOC Pre-University ECCE Certificate programme and achieved a **B+ and above** in any of the following courses:

- History & Philosophy of Early Childhood Education or Education 1
- Child Development
- Methodology & Curriculum or Education 2
- Internship Programme- Practical Teaching

Q3. Are exemption from courses offered if I have completed the SERVOL Early Childhood Programme?

YES! Exemptions are offered for four (4) level 1 courses (ECFS1001, ECFS1002, ECFS1006 & ECFS1007 and one (1) level 2 course ECFS2003) **if you** have successfully completed the SERVOL ECCE Certificate and achieved a **B+ and above** in the following courses:

- History & Philosophy of Early Childhood Education or Education 1
- Child Development
- Methodology & Curriculum or Education 2
- Internship Programme- Practical Teaching

Q4. Are exemptions from courses offered if I have completed an early childhood programme from another Tertiary institution?

YES! However you will need to submit your transcript, copies of the course outlines, evidence of the contact hours and credits achieved in the courses to be evaluated by the Exemption Team (student.services@open.uwi.edu) and the Program Manager at the Academic Program and Delivery Dept.

PROGRAMME DESIGN

Q5. How many credits do I need to obtain a Bachelor in Education in Early Childhood Development & Family Studies?

You need **90 credits** in order to be awarded a Bachelor in Education in ECDFS. All courses except (ECFS3006 & ECFS3001) in the B.EdECDFS program are worth three (3) credits. (ECFS3006 & ECFS3001 are worth 6 credits).

Q6. How many courses should I complete each Semester?

For the adult working full time we strongly recommend you choose three (3) courses per semester to aid your effective time management skills.

Q7. Is there a minimum and a maximum number of courses I can take each semester?

You can register for a minimum of one (1) and a maximum number of three (3) courses

each semester. In the Summer Semester a maximum of two (2) courses are recommended.

You will have to choose from the early childhood courses and the mandatory foundation courses, to make up your required course load each Semester.

All students will be advised to use the Academic Advising document (located on the UWIOC website) to guide them on the selection of courses for each academic year.

Q8 . Do any of the **level one (1) courses have pre-requisites?**

YES! ECFS1007 practicum 1 has the following pre-requisites:
ECFS1001, ECFS1002, ECFS1003 ECFS1006.

Q9. Do I need to complete all ten level one (1) courses before taking level two (2) courses?

No, but you must complete a minimum of 24 credits before moving to level 2 and will need to select your courses in the sequence that will allow you to meet the prerequisite for the following level two courses:

- ECFS2003 has a pre-requisite of ECFS1007
- ECFS 2007 has a pre-requisite of ECFS2001
- ECFS2005 has a pre-requisite of ECFS2003
- ECFS3006 has a pre-requisite of ECFS2005
- ECFS3003 has a pre-requisite of EDTK2030

Q10. Would I need to complete any pre-practicum documents before I register for all the practicum courses?

YES! You will need to submit the documents listed below to
(ecdfspracticumdocuments@open.uwi.edu) before you register for practicum one (1):

- A recent Police Certificate of Good Character **(Not more than six months old)**.
- A completed UWIOC Health Assessment form, signed by a registered physician. (You may have to update your immunization shots). **(This form is completed once for the 4 practicum courses)**
- A completed 'In Case of Emergency Form'. **(Updated by the student for each practicum course if there has been any change in their personal data)**.
- **N.B:** The UWIOC Health Assessment Form & the ' In Case of Emergency Form' can be downloaded from the B.EdECDFS Programme page on the UWIOC website.

- **For practicums 2-4** you would only have to submit the relevant Practicum Forms, and a valid Police Certificate of Good Character.

Q11. Would I have to take time off from my job to complete all four practicum courses?

- **YES!** Practicum 1, 2 & 3 is for 10 days (per practicum) at a practicum Site. **The final practicum will be four (4) weeks.** If you do not work in an early childhood centre you would have to apply for time off from your job to complete the 10 day requirement for each practicum and the four weeks placement for the final practicum. However you will be able to choose from the two options listed below in order to complete practicum 1, 2, & 3.
- **OPTION 1**
- One (1) consecutive week each until the 10 day requirement is complete
- **OPTION 2**
- Two (2) consecutive weeks

Options for the completion of the final practicum

- **OPTION 1**
- Two (2) consecutive weeks until the four (4) weeks requirement have been completed.
- **OPTION 2**
- Four (4) consecutive weeks

Q12. If I do not work at an early childhood center will I be placed at a practicum Site to complete the practicum courses?

YES! You will be placed at a practicum Site by UWIOC. **You have to indicate to the Program Manager on acceptance into the program in Semester 1 that you need to be placed at a practicum Site in your country.** Communication with the Program Manager can take place via your Practicum Forms.

Q13. Will I have to complete online activities in all the Practicum courses?

YES! The practicum courses are blended; you will have online activities and Units to complete while you engage in each practical experience at the practicum Site.

DELIVERY OF THE PROGRAMME

Q14. How is the programme delivered?

The Bachelor in Education in ECDFS is an online programme. You will need to have your own computer and reliable internet to access this programme from the comfort of your home.

Q15. How many days will I have to sign into the Learning Exchange?

We recommend at least an hour per day you should sign into the learning exchange, to keep abreast of the activities in the Units. You can sign in at times convenient to your schedule to complete the required activities and assignments.

Q16. When do I have to sign into the Learning Exchange at specific times?

When an assignment is due at a given date and time, you will have to sign into the learning exchange and submit your assignment.

When your Program Manager, Course Coordinator or tutor want to meet with you in real time, you will need to sign into the learning exchange at a particular time.

When you have group activities to complete you will need to sign into the Learning Exchange at a particular time.

Q17. What academic support would I receive with my courses?

Each programme has a Program Manager who manages the overall delivery of the Programme at the start of each semester you will be provided with academic advising suggestions as you manage your course load and work towards your Degree. Career advice is also provided by the Program Manager to students who request such a service.

Each course has a Course Coordinator who works with the tutors to ensure that their guidance to you is appropriate. They can also assist you with advice on time management skills and they will motivate you to successfully complete the course. .

Each course has Tutors assigned to groups of 35 students. The tutor's role is to guide you through the activities in the course Units and to answer any questions you may have about the activities, assignments and advice on academic matters.

Each course is assigned a Course Delivery Assistant who monitors the course and provides support to you via the following ways:

- Orientation to the Learning exchange sessions
- Daily SKYPE synchronous sessions
- Email contact for academic support academicsupport@open.uwi.edu

The helpdesk (helpdesk@open.uwi.edu) is available to assist you with technical issues (appropriate systems to be downloaded on your computer) you may encounter with your UWIOC email etc. All your technical issues as it relates to uploading of assignments etc. will be passed onto the Learning Support Specialist.