

# what you need to know about being an early childhood educator

The demand for early childhood (EC) professionals is growing. There will be over 40,000 new full-day preschool places by 2023!

## ready to be part of this growing industry?

Play a key role in **imparting life skills and values** by being an EC educator.

There are bright job prospects in the sector. The Singapore government is committed to **\$1 billion** a year in EC education, and this amount is expected to double over the next few years!

## what are the qualities needed to be an early childhood educator?

**Passion**  
to give every child a good start

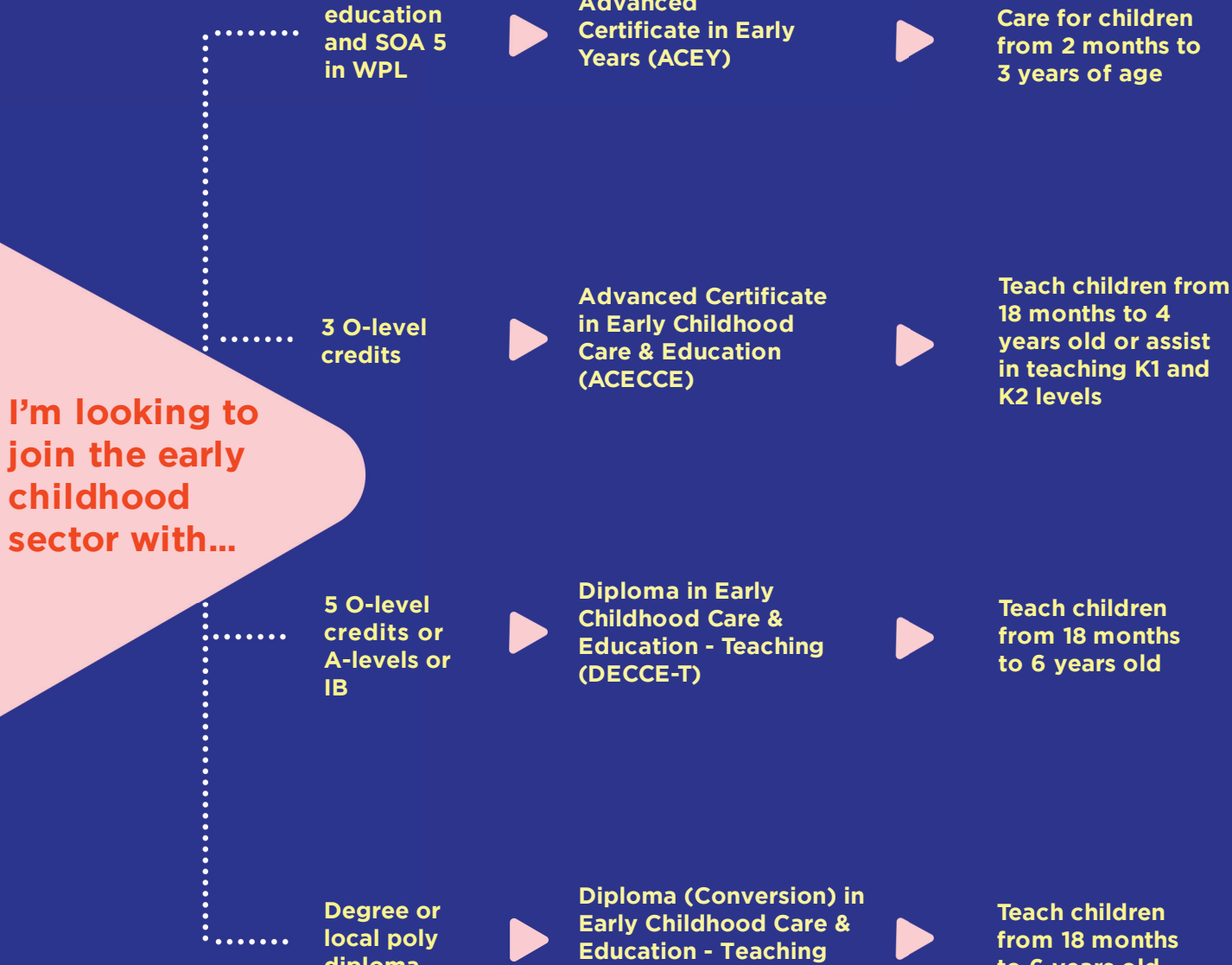
**Love**  
of interacting with children

**Enthusiasm**  
to learn and work well in teams

**Care**  
for others, good values and social skills

Find out about the different EC roles **here** and career opportunities on job portals **here**.

## what training is available?



This diagram serves only as a guide, and more detailed information on minimum entry requirements is available on NIEC's website. Applications must be supported by relevant documentation. Successful enrolment is subject to approval.

NIEC also offers full-time EC diploma and certificate level courses for post-secondary students at the NIEC (ITE), NIEC (NP) and NIEC (TP) campuses. Click **here** for more information.

## did you know?

... you don't need prior experience to start training?

You only need to meet the minimum entry requirements for the course you are applying for.

... you can still take up courses even if you are currently holding a full-time job?

We offer part-time and full-time courses. If you are holding a full-time job, you will need to apply for leave of absence to undergo the practicum modules in some courses. **Contact us** or visit **this page** for more information on our schedule.

... our courses comprise both classroom learning and practicums?

Practicums will be scheduled alongside your regular class timings and may start as early as 2 months after course commencement, depending on the schedule you choose. Successful applicants will need to secure placement at eligible early childhood development centres (kindergartens or childcare centres).

... you can graduate with a diploma and become a preschool teacher in 9 months?\*

If you have a degree or a locally recognised diploma and have obtained a GCE O-level credit in English (EL1), you may apply for the **Diploma (Conversion) in Early Childhood Care & Education - Teaching** course, where you can graduate in 9 or 13 months, depending on the course schedule you choose.\*

... you can be sponsored during your training and work at the same time?

With the Place-and-Train programme, you can be sponsored for your training and receive a monthly salary during your course.\*

To qualify, you will need to secure employment with an ECDA-licensed early childhood development centre. The fulfilment of your bond will depend on the centre's terms and conditions. Find out more **here**.

... there are various subsidies/ financial support available?

Click **here** for more information.

\*Other T&Cs may apply

## how do you apply for the courses?

Submit your application via [www.niec.edu.sg](http://www.niec.edu.sg) or contact us at [contact\\_niec@niec.edu.sg](mailto:contact_niec@niec.edu.sg) for enquiries.

## why NIEC?

We are the national training institute set up by the Ministry of Education to provide quality training and professional development for Singapore's EC educators at every stage of their career.

Find out more about us at [www.niec.edu.sg](http://www.niec.edu.sg)