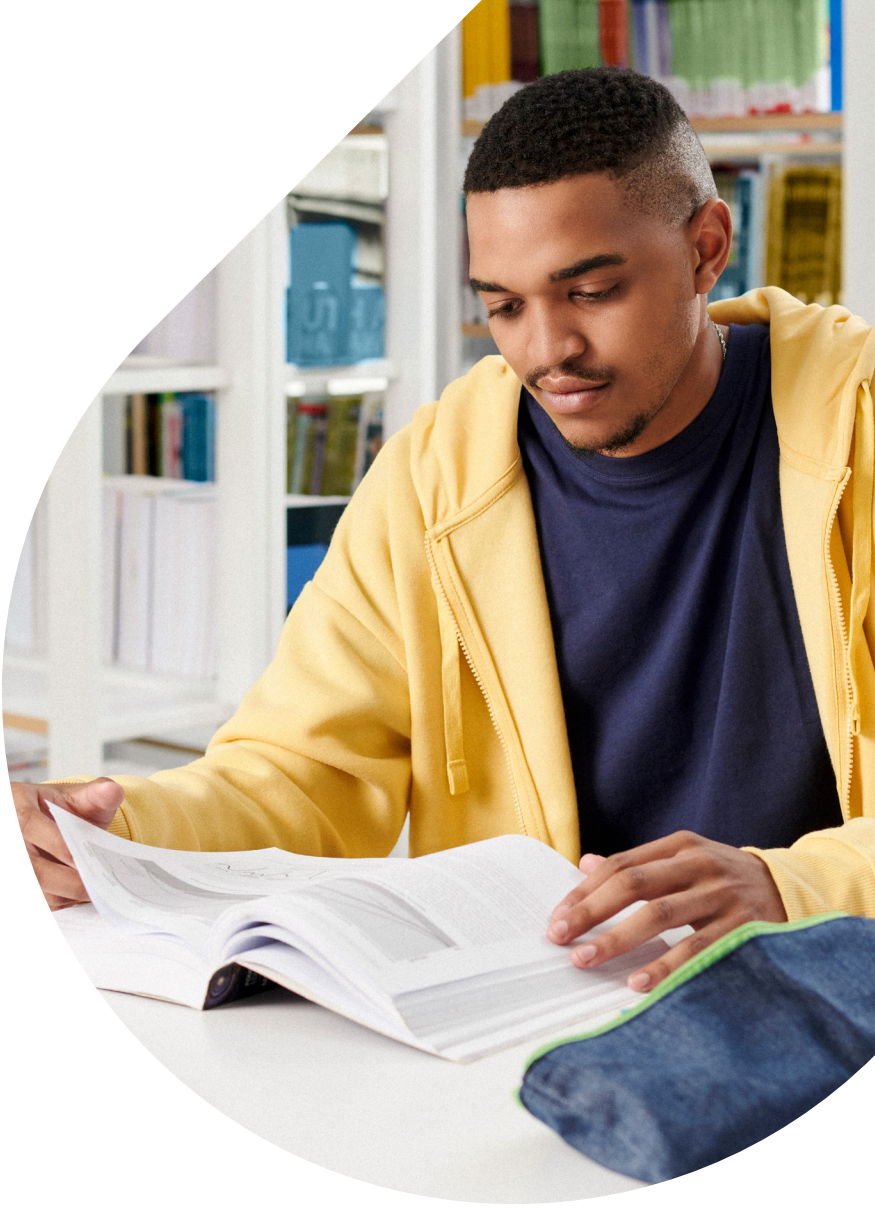
Emeris

Higher Certificate in Early Childhood Care and Education



Faculty of Education

1 Year Distance Higher Certificate | NQF Level 5
120 Credits | SAQA ID: 104532 | HCEC0501

→ Online

Qualification Description

The Higher Certificate in Early Childhood Care and Education programme is an entry level/introductory qualification (at NQF Level 5). This one-year higher certificate is structured in accordance with The Department of Higher Education and Training's (DHET) Policy on Minimum Requirements for Programmes Leading to Qualifications in Higher Education for Early Childhood Development Educators (2017), and with the National Curriculum Framework (NCF) for Children from Birth to Four Policy (2015).

In addition, it is aligned to the HEQSF guidelines, and will provide students with the beginning knowledge, skills and applied competences identified to be critical for facilitation at this level. Graduates will be well prepared with insight and skills that both contribute to employability and are relevant to further specialisation study in support of the principles of life-long learning.

Who Is This Qualification Aimed At?

The Higher Certificate in Early Childhood Care and Education qualification is aimed at students passionate about the study of early childhood development (ECD) education from birth through to 4 years of age. It is intended to provide students with "basic introductory knowledge, cognitive and conceptual tools and practical techniques to enable further study in ECD" (DHET, 2017: 24).

How Will Emeris Support Your Online Learning as a Distance (Online) Student, and How Will It Help Prepare You for the Working World?

Our distance teaching and learning approach is designed to allow you the freedom to self-govern your learning experiences according to your individual needs. You are at the centre of your own learning journey, and by offering curated engagement opportunities, we partner with you to:

- Engage with subject material
- Build understanding
- Develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills
- Manage your work, life and studies
- Succeed in your personal, professional, and academic goals.

DISTANCE (ONLINE)

CONTACT FULL-TIME

Admission Requirements

Minimum Admission Requirements		English	Notes
	NSC: HC pass with	40%	Student's proficiency in The 's Language of Learning and Teaching (LoLT), English, plus partial proficiency (sufficient for basic conversation; i.e. conversational competence) in one other South African official language (excluding Afrikaans) are required components of fundamental learning for this programme. For this, the following will be endorsed on your certificate: **LoLT:** • This higher certificate is delivered in English and thus English is known as the Language of Learning and Teaching (LoLT). • On successful completion of this Higher Certificate in Early Childhood Care and Education (HC in ECCE), your certificate will be endorsed with LoLT (English). **LoCC:** • If you have an African Language (excluding Afrikaans) as part of your NSC or equivalent, you may be exempted for this language. • If you are claiming conversational competence in an African Language (excluding Afrikaans), you are required to pass a competency test on NQF Level 5 in order to demonstrate conversational competence in such a language and be exempted for this language. • Competency tests are offered in four (4) official languages only, namely, isiXhosa, isiZulu, Sepedi and Setswana on The campuses. • If conversational competence is claimed in another African language (excluding Afrikaans) other than the four listed above, the onus is on you to provide evidence of NQF Level 5, or higher conversational competence in that language. • Once you have demonstrated conversational competence in an African language, and on successful completion of the HC in ECCE, your certificate will be endorsed, for example LoCC: isiZulu. **Note:** Languages offered are campus dependent.
	NC(V): HC pass	40%	
	SC: Endorsement - none with	40%	
	SC(a): HC pass with	40%	
	NASCA - National Senior Certificate for Adults	40%	
	International:		A SAQA Evaluation Certificate with NSC L4 equivalence with at least 40% or equivalent for English.

Should you have any other school leaving qualification not mentioned above, please reach out to a Student Advisor.

Scan the QR Code to learn more about Alternate Admission requirements for:
RPL | Mature Age Exemptions | USAf International Students | One module outstanding from a Higher Certificate *If applicable.

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Emeris is registered with the Department of Higher Education and Training as a private higher education institution under the Higher Education Act, 1997 (reg. No. 2007/HE07/002).

Please note, details are correct at the time of publication.

Curriculum Structure

Year 1							
Semester 1				Semester 2			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits	Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
DIAL5111	Digital and Academic Literacies	5	15	FMLP5112	Facilitating and Managing Literacy Programme	5	15
HSNU5111	Health, Safety and Nutrition	5	15	FMNP5112	Facilitating and Managing Numeracy Programme	5	15
ECLD5111	Early Childhood Learning and Development	5	15	FMLS5112	Facilitating and Managing Life Skills Programme	5	15
COXH5112/ COZU5112/ CONS5112	Communicative Languages: IsiXhosa/IsiZulu/Northern Sotho	5	15	ECDX5112	ECD Experience (6 weeks of ECD based work integrated learning – 3 weeks online & 3 weeks ECD centre-based experience)	5	17
MDPE5111	Management, Development and Professionalism in ECD	5	15				

Further Study Pathways

For the Faculty of Education, graduates of the Higher Certificate in Early Childhood Care and Education qualification may be eligible to apply for the Bachelor of Education in Foundation & Intermediate Phase Teaching degree, subject to meeting admission requirements.

Career Opportunities

- Beginner ECD Practitioner/Facilitator
- ECD/Preschool Teacher Aid
- Au Pair
- ECD/Preschool Aftercare Teacher

Work Integrated Learning (i.e. ECD Experience - ECDX5112)

Early Childhood Experience is an integral part of any Early Childhood Care and Education programme and grants students an opportunity to work within an authentic Early Childhood Development (ECD) environment. Students will be required to complete a minimum of 6-weeks in work-integrated learning which comprises of both ECD Centre-based experiences and online supplementary activities. ECD Centre-based experience must take place in a suitable, registered South African ECD Centre (as determined by the institution) within reasonable range of one of the Emeris campuses.

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Access Into Work Integrated Learning (i.e. ECD Experience)

The HCECCE Student is required to meet specific criteria for entrance into the School/ECD Centre for ECD Experience.

The following is important in this regard:

Police Clearance Certificates

All HCECCE students are required to have a valid police clearance certificate on commencement of their ECD Centre-based Experience.

Access into ECD Centre-based Experience

Access into ECD Centre-based Experience will be conditional upon meeting both of the following requirements:

- 100% Attendance in the Teaching Experience Module Lecture Sessions.
- 100% Submission rate for all module assessments in modules aligned to ECD Experience.

System and Software Requirements

- Reliable internet connection (we recommend 5-10 GB of data per month and an internet speed of at least 0.15 Mbps)
- Desktop PC or laptop with at least an i3 processor and 4GB RAM memory
- Windows 11 or macOS 10.15 (Microsoft Office 365 is available as a free download for Emeris students), and Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge Chromium or Firefox
- A working webcam and microphone
- An uninterrupted power supply is also highly recommended.

Exams are written at an exam centre and in some instances online. These details will be specified in your Programme Assessment Schedule (PAS).

Graduation and Completion Requirements for This Qualification

In order to be awarded this qualification, you must have achieved a minimum final year mark of fifty percent (50%) for all 9 modules in the curriculum.

As a distance (online) student, this qualification is structured to be completed over 1 year. The maximum time for completing a qualification full-time is double the minimum time associated with the qualification, and for part-time an additional year is allowed.

Where Assessments Are Written in Person

- For students based in South Africa, online students may select any Emeris campus as their Examination Centre.
- An alternative examination centre is only permissible for students studying abroad and those located in a province of South Africa where there is no campus. If there is no campus within reach, an alternative venue will need to be sourced by you. For non-Emeris venues, there is an alternative venue levy per module.

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What Are the Benefits of a Distance (Online) Qualification?

The distance (online) delivery mode provides you with the agility of studying towards a tertiary qualification asynchronously, at different times from different locations. Distance students need to commit to approximately 20-25 hours a week for distance engagement (most of which is after hours) with material and assessments to succeed.

Here are some of the benefits you can expect:

- A sequenced online learning environment that allows you the ability to manage your learning experiences flexibly and autonomously.
- A learner guide designed to lead you through the module material and learning outcomes, empowering you to effectively pace your learning in preparation for assessments.
- Our Learning Management System is designed to break up your learning units into manageable sections which include various activities to support learning.
- Module expert online lecturers that facilitate module teaching and learning support through various technology enhanced mediums.
- Student Relations Specialists provide administrative and operational guidance and support throughout your academic journey.
- A professionally registered Student Wellness Manager/Counsellor available for short-term, primary counselling services. Additionally, the Student Wellness Manager/Counsellor hosts various webinars and virtual talks on topics that promote a balanced lifestyle as you pursue your academic goals.

Apply Online

After your application is submitted, we will review your documentation and provide an outcome regarding your chosen study.

Follow us on social

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