Metropolitan State University Psychology Department

Information for Students who are PICA Head Start Preschool Teachers

1. Preschool teachers in Parents In Community Action (PICA) Head Start who have successfully completed PICA Head Start's Journey Assessment may apply for college credit at Metropolitan State University for the competencies they have achieved. Students seeking credit for the Journey competencies must be admitted to Metropolitan State University. Students wishing assistance with Metropolitan State University admissions should contact the Admissions Office at 651-793-1300 or visit the website at http://www.metrostate.edu/admissions. Students attending another college or university may request credits with permission of their current academic advisor and the Metropolitan State University Early Childhood Assessment Program Coordinator. Metropolitan State University credit may be transferred to other institutions according to the transfer policies of those institutions.

2. The competencies assessed through PICA Head Start's Journey Assessment will be accepted toward the Metropolitan State Psychology Major and the Early Childhood Studies Major. If you would like to apply the credits toward another major at Metropolitan State University, please consult with your academic advisor.

3. The competencies assessed by PICA Head Start's Journey Assessment are equivalent to 16 upper division semester credits. Students who have achieved the competencies will have met the following requirements for the:

   Psychology Major:
   • Core courses: The developmental psychology requirement fulfilled.
   • Psychology Electives: Eight credits fulfilled.
   • Application of Knowledge: Requirement fulfilled.

   Early Childhood Studies Major:
   • Early Childhood Studies Electives: 12 credits fulfilled.
   • Teaching Internship: Requirement fulfilled.

However, the entire 16 credits may not fit into a student's degree program. Students must meet with their academic advisor to determine how many of the Journey Assessment credits fit into their degree program prior to applying for the college credit.

4. PICA Head Start staff who successfully completed the Journey may register for the credits any semester at Metropolitan State University, but not later than three years after fulfilling the Journey Assessment. Students who completed the Journey Assessment more than three years ago may register for the Journey competencies with the permission of the Director of Education at PICA Head Start.

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5. Student tuition for the Journey competencies at Metropolitan State University is $25.00 per credit. (This rate may change in the future as Metropolitan State University tuition rates change or funding decreases for the Early Childhood Assessment Program.)

6. To register for the Journey competency credit at Metropolitan State University, you need to complete Part A of the Quick Start Registration Form. This form is located on Metropolitan State University's website at http://metrostate.edu/ecap. Mail the Quick Start Registration Form and documentation from PICA's Human Resource Office verifying your assessment results to:

Charlotte Nitardy  
Early Childhood Assessment Program  
Metropolitan State University  
1450 Energy Park Drive, Suite 101  
St. Paul, MN 55108.

7. Questions regarding the registration process can be directed to Charlotte Nitardy at (651)999-5824.

8. Faculty members will use a pass/fail grading option.

9. A list of the four competencies assessed through PICA Head Start's Journey Assessment is attached.
Parents In Community Action Head Start Journey Competencies accepted toward the Psychology Major and Early Childhood Studies Major

Psyc 365i  Applied Child Development
Understands the development of language, cognitive, and motor skills in young children and can apply this knowledge in curriculum planning and teaching. 4 semester credits

Psyc 365i  Enhancing Learning in the Preschool child
Understands the diversity in learning processes in preschool children and is able to apply strategies that enhance exploration and behavior regulation with children of diverse backgrounds. 4 semester credits

Psyc 365i  Culturally Diverse Families
Understands the implications of the culture of families in values toward development, education, and child rearing, and can use that knowledge to work effectively with families and children from diverse backgrounds. 4 semester credits

Psyc 365i  Head Start Internship
Knows and can apply the theories and methods of early childhood education well enough to set up an appropriate classroom, organize a schedule, supervise assistants, observe children, keep the necessary records, and collaborate with specialists for the benefit of the children. 4 semester credits
1. Infant or toddler teachers in Parents In Community Action (PICA) Head Start who have successfully completed PICA Head Start's Journey Assessment may apply for college credit at Metropolitan State University for the competencies they have achieved. Students seeking credit for the Journey competencies must be admitted to Metropolitan State University. Students wishing assistance with Metropolitan State University admissions should contact the Admissions Office at 651-793-1300 or visit the web at http://www.metrostate.edu/admissions. Students attending another college or university may request credits with permission of their current academic advisor and the Metropolitan State University Early Childhood Assessment Program Coordinator. Metropolitan State University credit may be transferred to other institutions according to the transfer policies of those institutions.

2. The competencies assessed through PICA Head Start's Journey Assessment will be accepted toward the Metropolitan State Psychology Major and the Early Childhood Studies Major. If you would like to apply the credits toward another major at Metropolitan State University, please consult with your academic advisor.

3. The competencies assessed by PICA Head Start's Journey Assessment are equivalent to 12 upper division semester credits. Students who have achieved the competencies will have met the following requirements for the:

   **Psychology Major:**
   - Psychology Electives: Eight credits fulfilled.
   - Application of Knowledge: Requirement fulfilled.

   **Early Childhood Studies Major:**
   - Early Childhood Studies Electives: Eight credits fulfilled.
   - Teaching Internship: Requirement fulfilled.

However, the entire 12 credits may not fit into a student's degree program. Students must meet with their academic advisor to determine how many of the Journey Assessment credits fit into their degree program prior to applying for the college credit.

4. PICA Head Start staff who successfully completed the Journey may register for the college credit any semester at Metropolitan State University, but not later than three years after fulfilling the Journey Assessment. Students who completed the Journey Assessment more than three years ago may register for the Journey competencies with the permission of the Director of Education at PICA Head Start.
5. Student tuition for the Journey competencies at Metropolitan State University is $25.00 per credit. (This rate may change in the future as Metropolitan State University tuition rates change or funding decreases for the Early Childhood Assessment Program.)

6. To register for the Journey competency credit at Metropolitan State University, you need to complete Part A of the Quick Start Registration Form. This form is located on Metropolitan State University's website at http://metrostate.edu/ecap. Mail the Quick Start Registration Form and documentation from PICA's Human Resource Office verifying your assessment results to:

   Charlotte Nitardy  
   Early Childhood Assessment Program  
   Metropolitan State University  
   1450 Energy Park Drive, Suite 101  
   St. Paul, MN 55108.

7. Questions regarding the registration process can be directed to Charlotte Nitardy at (651)999-5824.

8. Faculty members will use a pass/fail grading option.

9. A list of the four competencies assessed through PICA Head Start's Journey Assessment is attached.
Metropolitan State University
Psychology Department

Parents In Community Action Head Start Journey Competencies accepted toward the Psychology Major and Early Childhood Studies Major

Psyc 365i Enhancing Infant/Toddler Development
Understands the developmental needs of children ages 0-3 and can design strategies for the enhancement of physical and cognitive growth in a center-based program. 4 semester credits (This is not a course equivalency for Urban Infant-Toddler Curriculum)

Psyc 365i Culturally Diverse Families
Understands the implications of the culture of families in values toward development, education, and child rearing, and can use that knowledge to work effectively with families and children from diverse backgrounds. 4 semester credits

Psyc 365i Head Start Internship
Knows and can apply the theories and methods of early childhood education well enough to set up an appropriate classroom, organize a schedule, supervise assistants, observe children, keep the necessary records, and collaborate with specialists for the benefit of the children. 4 semester credits
Information for Students who are PICA Head Start Assistant Teachers

1. Assistant Teachers in Parents In Community Action (PICA) Head Start who have successfully completed PICA Head Start's Journey Assessment may apply for college credit at Metropolitan State University for the competencies they have achieved. Students seeking credit for the Journey competencies must be admitted to Metropolitan State University. Students wishing assistance with Metropolitan State University admissions should contact the Admissions Office at 651-793-1300 or visit the website at http://www.metrostate.edu/admissions. Students attending another college or university may request credits with permission of their current academic advisor and the Metropolitan State University Early Childhood Assessment Program Coordinator. Metropolitan State University credit may be transferred to other institutions according to the transfer policies of those institutions.

2. The competencies assessed through PICA Head Start's Journey Assessment will be accepted toward the Metropolitan State Psychology Major and the Early Childhood Studies Major. If you would like to apply the credits toward another major at Metropolitan State University, please consult with your academic advisor.

3. The competencies assessed by PICA Head Start's Journey Assessment are equivalent to 8 lower division semester credits. Students who have achieved the competencies will have met the following requirements for the:

   - **Psychology Major**:
     - Psychology Electives: Eight credits fulfilled.

   - **Early Childhood Studies Major**:
     - Early Childhood Studies Electives: Eight credits fulfilled.

   However, the entire 8 credits may not fit into a student's degree program. Students must meet with their academic advisor to determine how many of the Journey Assessment credits fit into their degree program prior to applying for the college credit.

4. PICA Head Start staff who successfully completed the Journey may register for the college credits any semester at Metropolitan State University, but not later than three years after fulfilling the Journey Assessment. Students who completed the Journey Assessment more than three years ago may register for the Journey competencies with the permission of the Director of Education at PICA Head Start.

5. Student tuition for the Journey competencies at Metropolitan State University is $25.00 per credit. (This rate may change in the future as Metropolitan State
University tuition rates change or funding decreases for the Early Childhood Assessment Program.

6. To register for the Journey competency credit at Metropolitan State University, you need to complete Part A of the Quick Start Registration Form. This form is located on Metropolitan State University's website at http://metrostate.edu/ecap. Mail the Quick Start Registration Form and documentation from PICA's Human Resource Office verifying your assessment results to:

   Charlotte Nitardy  
   Early Childhood Assessment Program  
   Metropolitan State University  
   1450 Energy Park Drive, Suite 101  
   St. Paul, MN 55108.

7. Questions regarding the registration process can be directed to Charlotte Nitardy at (651)999-5824.

8. Faculty members will use a pass/fail grading option.

9. A list of the two competencies assessed through PICA Head Start's Journey Assessment is attached.
Parents In Community Action Head Start Journey Competencies accepted toward the Psychology Major and Early Childhood Studies Major

**Psyc 165i Professional Issues in Head Start Centers**
Understands the requirements and demands of working as a team member in a center based early childhood program and can work successfully with colleagues, parents, and supervisors. 4 semester credits

**Psyc 165i Health, Safety, and Nutrition of Young Children**
Understands the array of safety, health, and nutritional needs of young children and can address these concerns in the daily learning environment. 4 semester credits