Project Exceptional
A training offered by Minnesota Child Care Resource and Referrals

Metropolitan State University's Early Childhood Assessment Program has partnered with the Minnesota Child Care Resource and Referral Network to provide students who have participated in the Project Exceptional training the opportunity to earn college credit.

The Credits and How You Can Use Them
These credits can be used to meet the Minnesota educational requirements for an assistant teacher or teacher working in licensed child care programs, the continuing education requirements of licensed teachers, or toward the degree requirements of 2-year or 4-year colleges.

At Metropolitan State University the credits can be used to meet: 1) General Education and Liberal Studies (GELS) Requirements including Goal V: History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences, 2) Electives - most majors have room for about 20 elective credits, and 3) Major Requirements if your major is related to early childhood (check with your academic advisor). However, you do not need to be a degree seeking student at Metropolitan State University to earn credits for the Project Exceptional training.

Steps to Earning Credit
The steps to receive Metropolitan State University credits are simple, but each step is important and necessary to complete. Up to two credits for Project Exceptional Training can be earned after attending the training and successfully completing the written assignments.

Step 1: Fill out Part A of the Quick Start Registration Form.
Complete Part A of the Quick Start Registration form available at www.metrostate.edu/ecap. Print or write today's date, your name, address, telephone number, e-mail address and social security number (optional). We would also appreciate it if you would complete the survey requesting student information.

Step 2: Check the “Project Exceptional” sessions you attended.
- Who Cares for Our Children? A Historical Perspective of Services for Young Children with Disabilities
- More Alike Than Different
- Living with Disability: The Family Perspective
- Inclusion: Developmentally Appropriate Care for All Young Children
- Family-Caregiver Partnerships
- When Concerns Arise: Identifying and Referring Children with Exceptional Needs
- Caregiving Strategies: Building Resilience in Children at Risk
- Caring for Young Children Who Have Physical Disabilities
- Nuts and Bolts: Administrative Issues in Serving Children with Exceptional Needs and Their Families
- Children’s Behavior: The Importance of the Practitioner’s Role
- Prevention: It’s All About Environment
- Inside the Child: Social and Emotional Development
- Observation: Finding the Function of Behavior
- Tools for The Toolbox: Strategies to Meet Challenging Behaviors
- ADHD: Seeing the Disability Behind the Behavior
- Autism: Including Children with Social, Communication, and Behavior Needs
- First Signs
Step 3: Complete the written assignment.

Only complete these assignments if you have not previously received college credit for this subject.

Project Exceptional Assignment
Write a written report about the Project Exceptional sessions that you have completed. Then choose at least 1 subject from your training sessions and locate at least 3 references (e.g., books, journals, internet articles) on that specific topic. Write a summary of what you have learned. Finally, explain how you would use the information you learned by participating in the Project Exceptional training and through your readings on preschool children with disabilities.

The paper should be typed and double spaced. You must include information gained not only from your training, but also from 3 references (e.g. books, journals, internet articles). Write down the titles and authors of the references you use at the end of the paper. If you obtain articles from the internet include the web address. The length of the paper should be 5-7 pages.

Step 4: Make copies of your training certificates.

Step 5: Mail in this form, the Quick Start Registration form, your assignment, copies of your training certificates, and payment (checks made out to Metropolitan State University) to:

Early Childhood Assessment Coordinator
Psychology Department
Metropolitan State University
1450 Energy Park Drive, Suite 101
St. Paul, MN 55108

By submitting your assignments, you are indicating that you have not previously received college credit for this subject at any college or university. Metropolitan State University’s Early Childhood Assessment Program follows the Council of Adult and Experiential Learning guidelines that state: Prior learning must be independent from credits previously transcripted at other institutions of higher education.

Grading
After we receive all of your documents, your learning evaluation will be submitted to the Metropolitan State University registration and grades office. The grade will be posted on the student’s transcript as an “S”, competence satisfactorily completed, or “NC”, no competence unsatisfactory work. Please note that Metropolitan State University does not mail grades to students. If you need a copy of your grades or transcript call the Records Office Transcript Help Line at 651-793-1233 or visit http://www.metrostate.edu/registration/records.html.

Cost
The cost will be only $25 per credit. The number of college credits earned is based on a combination of the number of lessons completed and the successful completion of assignments. The tuition for 2 credits is $50.00.

1 credit = 4-8 sessions completed + assignment 2 credits = 9-17 sessions completed + assignment

This program is supported by a grant from the Minnesota Department of Human Services in partnership with Metropolitan State University to promote professional development, career pathways, and higher education access among the Minnesota early childhood professionals. Students not admitted in a degree program are eligible for up to 4 credits.

Where do I get more information?
For more information about the Early Childhood Assessment Program, visit our website at www.metrostate.edu/ecap or call Charlotte Nitardy, Early Childhood Assessment Coordinator, at 651-999-
5824 or e-mail: charlotte.nitardy@metrostate.edu. For more information about the Project Exceptional training, contact your training provider or your local Child Care Resource and Referral agency.