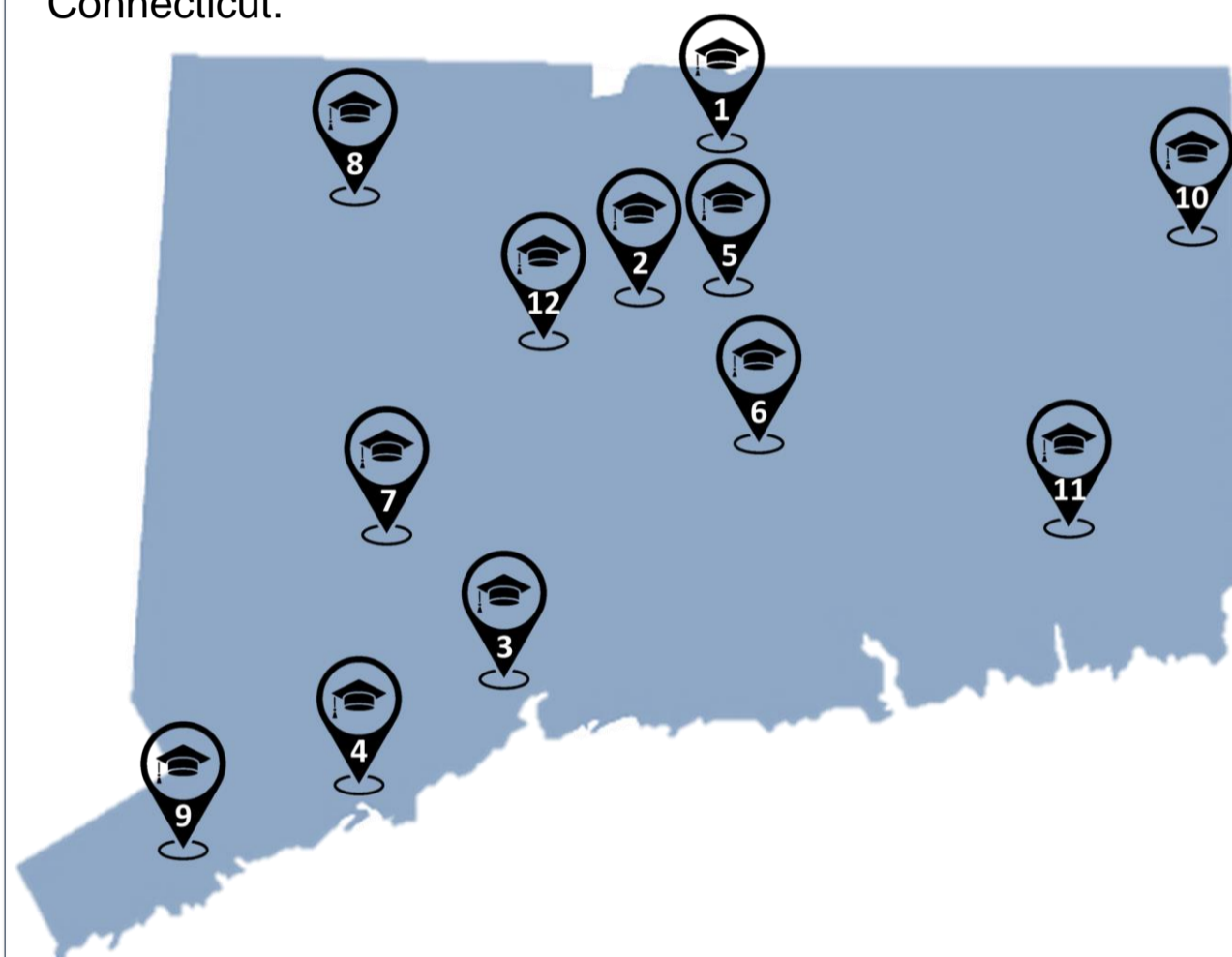


Purpose

The purpose of the project is to increase the number of graduates from Early Childhood Associate Degree programs who are prepared to implement evidenced based practices for infants and young children with disabilities and their families. Graduates will be from the 12 Community Colleges located in Connecticut.



1 Asnuntuck Community College	7 Naugatuck Valley Community College
2 Capitol Community College	8 Northwestern Community College
3 Gateway Community College	9 Norwalk Community College
4 Housatonic Community College	10 Quinebaug Valley Community College
5 Manchester Community College	11 Three Rivers Community College
6 Middlesex Community College	12 Tunxis Community College

Completed Outcomes

Created a strategic plan with all community colleges, a revised coursework, practicum and course assignments to reflect knowledge and skills about infants, toddlers and their families.

- Adopted a Vision Statement with all Community Colleges that stated: A professional early childhood (birth to 5) workforce that engages and supports families and the community to provide optimal development for each child.
- Adopted a Mission Statement: CT Community Colleges will educate students to meet professional standards, competencies, and recommended practices to work in inclusive early childhood settings through partnerships with families, communities, interdisciplinary professionals, higher education, and other cross sector systems, including state agencies and state government, to meet the needs of each child for life success.
- Collected and analyzed 18 Master Course Outlines.
- Completed Crosswalks of all EI/ECSE Standards, ECE Competencies, and DEC Recommended Practices for each syllabus.
- Conducted a Crosswalk of the five Core Early Childhood Master Course Outlines:
 - ECE 101 Intro to Early Childhood
 - ECE 210 Observation and Participation
 - ECE 215 Exceptional Learner
 - ECE 231 Early Literacy and Language
 - ECE 290, 291, 295 Student Teaching
- 13 Additional Courses Including:
 - ECE 103 Creative Experiences
 - ECE 106 Music and Movement
 - ECE 182 Child Growth and Development
 - ECE 222 Methods and Techniques
 - ECE 176 Health, Safety and Nutrition for Young Children
 - ECE 109 Science and Math for Children
 - ECE 141 Infant and Toddler Growth and Development
 - ECE 142 Methods and Techniques for Infants and Toddlers
 - ECE 275 Children, Family and School Relations

Examples

Pre-Grant: ECE 101-Intro to Early Childhood Education

Course Description – No mention of inclusion, disabilities or developmental delays.

Student/Course Activities:

- Create activities for multicultural, anti-bias curriculum and learning environments.
- Create and evaluate early childhood learning environments with particular attention to the diverse needs of all children, considering their individual needs and strengths.

Post-Grant: ECE 101-Intro to Early Childhood Care and Education

Course Description – Specific mention of inclusive education, children with disabilities and developmental delays.

Student/Course Activities:

- Discuss and reflect upon teaching practices and how goals, objectives, and assessments are integral to planning a developmentally appropriate program for all children including children with disabilities and other diverse learners.
- Analyze the role of play in the development of all young children including children with disabilities and other diverse learners.
- Identify, discuss and reflect upon individualized approaches to discipline using positive guidance strategies for all young children including children with disabilities and other diverse learners.

Project Resources

A resource library has been developed for ECE instructors and other early childhood professionals. This library includes resources surrounding best practice, the inclusion of young children with disabilities and/or culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and their families.



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