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NAEYC Accreditation of Early Childhood Higher Education Programs Granted to One Program; Thirteen Institutions' Programs Renewed

WASHINGTON — The National Association for the Education of Young Children's (NAEYC) Commission on the Accreditation of Early Childhood Higher Education Programs is pleased to announce that it has granted first-time accreditation to an early childhood degree program at one institution of higher education during its spring meeting. In addition, the Commission voted to renew accreditation for programs at thirteen institutions. This brings the total number of institutions with currently accredited programs to 198 in 40 states across the country.

Early childhood professional preparation programs serve a wide-range of students and prepare early childhood educators for a variety of early learning settings. Accreditation serves as a mechanism for ensuring a consistent and high level of program quality and alignment to the NAEYC Initial Standards for Early Childhood Professional Preparation Programs while respecting the unique mission and context of each degree program, its host institution, and its community.

"The Commission congratulates all of the programs that achieved or renewed accreditation in this recent review cycle," said Bridget Murray, Chair of the Commission. "Through accreditation, programs are demonstrating their willingness to be held accountable to the profession and the public for ensuring that their graduates are ready to be effective in early learning settings. As we lean into the Unifying Framework's recommendations for the profession, which includes calling for all early childhood professional preparation programs to be accredited, I commend these programs for leading the way."

To earn and retain accreditation, professional preparation programs must demonstrate that they:

- Align to NAEYC's Professional Preparation Standards;
- Respond to the unique needs of their degree candidates and communities;
- Provide intentional learning experiences for their degree candidates to obtain the knowledge and skills needed to be effective early childhood educators; and,
- Continuously assess and reflect on their degree candidates' performance.



The following degree program earned first-time accreditation:

Ozarks Technical College (MO)

A.A.S. Early Childhood Development

The following programs have renewed accreditation:

Austin Community College (TX)

A.A.S. Child Care and Development

Midlands Technical College (SC)

A.A.S. Early Care and Education

Capital Community College (CT)

A.S. Early Childhood Education &
A.A. CSCU Pathway Transfer Degree: Early Childhood
Teacher Credentialing Studies ECTC Level A

Northeast State Community College (TN)

A.A.S. Early Childhood Education

Davidson County Community College (NC)

A.A.S. Early Childhood Education

Northwestern Connecticut Community College (CT)

A.S. Early Childhood Education

De Anza College (CA)

A.A. Child Development & A.S.T. Early Childhood
Education

Paradise Valley Community College (AZ)

A.A.S. Early Childhood Education

Denmark Technical College (SC)

A.A.S. Early Care and Education

Quinebaug Valley Community College (CT)

A.S. Early Childhood Education

Fayetteville Technical Community College (NC)

A.A.S. Early Childhood

South Piedmont Community College (NC)

A.A.S. Early Childhood Education

Three Rivers Community College (CT)

A.S. Early Childhood Education

For more information, visit the NAEYC Early Childhood Higher Education Accreditation system [website](#).

Founded in 1926, the National Association for the Education of Young Children is the largest and most influential advocate for high-quality early care and education in the United States.

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