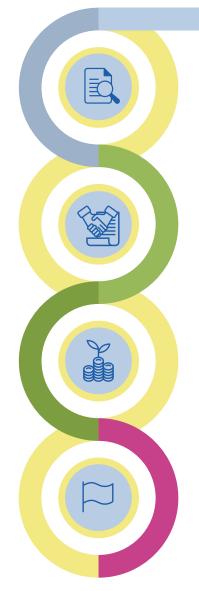






# Choosing an ELCC Post-Secondary Program

A Toolkit for Alberta's Early Childhood Educators



# What to Look for in a Program

- Approved for Alberta child care certification.
- Includes practicum/field placement with structured supervision
- Taught by qualified instructors with ELCC experience.
- Uses Alberta's *Flight* curriculum framework and reflects provincial standards.
- Offers credit transfer and pathways to higher credentials.

## **Are Student Supports in Place?**

- Academic advising and student supports.
- Affordable tuition and clear fee structures. Student loans, grants, or bursaries are available.
- Flexible delivery methods that suit your needs.
- · Mental health and counselling services

## Does the Program Offer the Student Life You Want?

- · Residence or housing assistance
- · Recreational facilities and wellness programming
- Student Union advocacy or leadership
- Clubs, events, and opportunities for social connection

### What to Watch For

- Placements with little supervision or unclear learning outcomes
- Practicum outside licensed settings or with no/unclear oversight
- · Credits that don't transfer to other institutions.
- Tuition seems low but includes unclear or unexpected fees.
- Program not recognized for certification in Alberta.

### Is This a Good Fit for You?

Use this self-reflection checklist before registering:  Does the credential match my career goals?	YES	NO			
			Is the field placement well-structured, supervised, and meaningful?		
			Are instructors qualified and engaged with current practice?		
Are credits transferable if I want to continue my education after?					
Is the full cost, with financial supports, clear and affordable?					
Does the program format, schedule, and location fit my life?					
Are student supports robust and accessible?					
Do I understand the program's delivery method and schedule?					
Will I feel connected through student life (housing, clubs, etc.)?					