altitude
SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

SAQA ID 97542

OCCUPATIONAL CERTIFICATE

Early Childhood Development Practitioner

Build the capability to support holistic child development through inclusive, play-based learning and care.

DEVELOP BRIGHTER TOMORROWS



NQF LEVEL	QUALIFICATION	MANAGED ROLLOUT
Level 4	131 credits	12 months

Purpose & rationale

Purpose

The purpose of this qualification is to prepare a learner to operate as an Early Childhood Development Practitioner. A practitioner plans and facilitates inclusive, play-based learning, observes child progress and promotes the well-being of young children in centre-based or non-centre-based settings.

Qualified learners will be able to:

- Plan inclusive environments and learning activities.
- Facilitate daily programmes and active learning.
- Observe, assess, record and report child progress.
- Promote health, nutrition, safety and protection.

Why early childhood development matters

Early Childhood Development Practitioners help children build the foundations for further learning. Skilled practitioners create safe and stimulating environments, respond to individual developmental needs and work with parents and other service providers.

This national qualification connects child-development knowledge with practical facilitation, observation and care. Learners develop the competence to support children through inclusive daily programmes and demonstrate effective practice in ECD settings.

What sets the Altitude rollout apart

01 Integrated learning

Knowledge, practical activities and workplace experience are connected throughout the programme so learners build competence progressively.

02 Workplace connected

Learners practice tools and processes in a supported environment before applying them in authentic workplace settings.

03 Supported throughout

Facilitators, learner support staff, mentors and programme administration monitor progress and provide support throughout the programme.

ALTITUDE DELIVERY MODEL

Integrated programme delivery

Knowledge learning, practical skills and workplace experience are integrated throughout the programme. Learners build understanding in the classroom, practice ECD activities in a supported environment and apply those skills through authentic workplace evidence.

01

Build the knowledge

Facilitated learning develops child-development theory, programme planning, active learning, observation and assessment, health and safety, and ECD administration.

02

Practice the skills

Structured practical activities and programme templates allow learners to plan inclusive activities, facilitate learning, observe progress and practice care routines before workplace application.

03

Apply it in the workplace

Learners plan routines, facilitate learning programmes and document child progress in ECD settings. Workplace mentors guide practice, review evidence and support required sign-off.

04

Assess, support and progress

Assessment, feedback, learner support and progress tracking run throughout the programme. Practical observation and workplace evidence help learners prepare for programme completion and EISA readiness.

Integrated by design

Knowledge, practical application and workplace experience are connected throughout the programme so that learners build competence progressively rather than in isolation.

Learner support built in

Facilitator feedback • Study group support • Progress monitoring • Workplace evidence guidance • Catch-up planning • Attendance and submission tracking

Learning modules

Knowledge modules

MODULE	MODULE TITLE	NQF	CREDITS
234201000-KM-01	Introduction to the Early Childhood Development Sector	4	4
234201000-KM-02	Theories and Perspectives of Child Development	5	6
234201000-KM-03	Planning and Programme Development in Early Childhood Settings	4	8
234201000-KM-04	Facilitation and Mediation of Active Learning	5	12
234201000-KM-05	Observation and Assessment in Early Childhood Development	4	4
234201000-KM-06	Promotion of Health, Safety and Well-being of Children	4	6
234201000-KM-07	Administration for Early Childhood Development Services and Programmes	3	3
TOTAL CREDITS FOR KNOWLEDGE MODULES: 43			

Practical skills modules

MODULE	MODULE TITLE	NQF	CREDITS
234201000-PM-01	Plan and Prepare Inclusive Educational Activities and Routines	4	12
234201000-PM-02	Facilitate and Mediate Active Learning	5	9
234201000-PM-03	Observe, Assess, Record and Report Each Child's Progress	4	4

Practical skills modules continue on the next page.

Learning modules continued

Practical skills modules

MODULE	MODULE TITLE	NQF	CREDITS
234201000-PM-04	Support and Promote Child Health, Nutrition, Safety and Well-being	4	12
234201000-PM-05	Build and Maintain Collaborative Relationships	4	3
234201000-PM-06	Prepare and Maintain Administrative Systems	3	3
TOTAL CREDITS FOR PRACTICAL SKILLS MODULES: 43			

Work experience modules

MODULE	MODULE TITLE	NQF	CREDITS
234201000-WM-01	Learning Programme and Routines Planning and Preparation	4	13
234201000-WM-02	Facilitating and Mediating the Learning Programme in Different Contexts	4	15
234201000-WM-03	Observation, Assessment, Recording and Reporting on Children's Development	4	7
234201000-WM-04	Promoting Child Health, Nutrition, Safety, Protection and Well-being	4	10
TOTAL CREDITS FOR WORK EXPERIENCE MODULES: 45			

Minimum qualification credits 131

Altitude Skills Development provides training, internal formative assessment and support to prepare learners for the External Integrated Summative Assessment (EISA). The EISA is conducted separately through the relevant QCTO assessment arrangements at an accredited assessment centre. Learners must provide the required evidence of completed knowledge, practical skills and work experience components to qualify for external assessment.

altitude
SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

BUILD CAPABILITY. CREATE OPPORTUNITY. DELIVER IMPACT.

Develop your next generation of ECD practitioners.

Partner with Altitude Skills Development to develop Early Childhood Development Practitioners through a managed programme that connects learning, practical application and workplace experience.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

National Certificate Vocational (NCV) at NQF Level 3, or any other NQF Level 3 qualification.

WEBSITE

altitudeskillsdevelopment.co.za

CAPE TOWN

+27 21 761 5321 / 6

Block Z, Greenford Office Estate
Punters Way, Kenilworth, Cape Town, 7708

Occupational Certificate: Early Childhood Development Practitioner

SAQA ID 97542 | NQF LEVEL 4 | 131 CREDITS | 12 MONTHS MANAGED ROLLOUT