

Credit by Examination

- **Your educational pathway** – Start on the right path to a college degree by earning credit for what you know. Then enroll in an Early Childhood Education degree program.
- **Your career pathway** – Enhance your career path by demonstrating that you have knowledge in the areas tested on the Early Childhood Pathways Exams.

To receive Pathway Exam study guides, or to schedule an exam, call 860-515-3708.

Testing is a cost-effective way to earn college credit while accommodating work and family schedules. In addition to the Early Childhood Pathways Exam, students can consider earning credit through a broad array of CLEP and DSST/DANTES examinations. There are tests in many content areas which are listed at www.charteroak.edu/exams.

About Charter Oak State College

Charter Oak is a Connecticut State College established in 1973 to help career oriented *adult* learners achieve their educational and professional goals. Charter Oak offers time-flexible and economical degree completion, credential and certificate programs. These programs have contributed to Charter Oak's nationwide reputation as the college that offers '*degrees without boundaries*.' Our institution is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.

For more information about Charter Oak State College and its programs

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 **CharterOak**SM
STATE COLLEGE
Degrees Without Boundaries

A Connecticut State College accredited by
the New England Association of Schools and Colleges

Early Childhood Pathways Exams

 **CharterOak**SM
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Do you have the knowledge one would acquire in these college courses:

- Introduction to Early Childhood Education
- Child Developmental Psychology
- Infant / Toddler Growth and Development
- Early Language and Literacy Development
- Infant / Toddler Evaluation and Assessment

If the answer is yes, you may be ready to earn credit through the Early Childhood Pathways Exams offered by Charter Oak State College. These five multiple-choice exams enable the awarding of fifteen college credits to students who demonstrate knowledge equivalent to that which would be earned by college courses.

Topics Covered on Exams

Introduction to Early Childhood Education:

Historical perspectives including theorists and trends; foundations of child development; the physical and social environment; curriculum integration; developmentally appropriate practices and special needs students; working with families; and professional growth.

Child Developmental Psychology:

Individual changes from infancy through late childhood; and the sources and causes of developmental changes from biological, cognitive, and psychosocial perspectives.

Infant / Toddler Growth and Development:

Whole child development; observing and recording behavior; development of attachment, emotions and feelings, social skills, motor skills, and cognition; literacy and language development; curriculum; relationships with families; and creating safe environments.

Early Language and Literacy Development:

Early language and literacy development, including oral language, listening, writing and reading skills; influences of a child's cultural/social background, home-school connections and experiences on emerging literacy development; and creation of a literacy-rich environment that engages children in developmentally appropriate language arts experiences.

Infant / Toddler Evaluation and Assessment

The Infant/Toddler Examination and Assessment exam was created in partnership with the CT Birth-to-Three System. It covers all types of evaluation and assessment tools; selection and scoring assessments as well as strategies, methods, and practices in evaluating and assessing infants/toddlers for developmental disabilities and eligibility for CT Birth-to-Three services under Part C of IDEA. Covered as well is infant/toddler development and effective communication skills with families, caregivers, and other professionals, working as part of an assessment team.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who should take these exams?

Anyone who has knowledge equivalent to what is learned in a full semester course on these topics, but does not have college credit in these areas, should consider taking the exams. Generally, this knowledge is gained from work experience and in-service courses.

How can I find out if I am ready to take these exams?

Each exam has a study guide that describes the content of the exam and includes practice questions, and reference texts for further study. The study guides are available through the Charter Oak State College website at www.charteroak.edu or by calling Charter Oak State College at 860-515-3708.

If I have completed the Connecticut Charts-A-Course training am I prepared for these exams?

The Connecticut Charts-A-Course training lays a good foundation for the knowledge tested on several of these exams. However, some additional studying may be needed. Students should consult the study guides. The

textbooks and other resources are available to help a student prepare for these exams. It is suggested that students review the content of the exam and use the suggested resources in areas where the student may be weak.

When and where do I take my exams?

Exams are administered by Charter Oak State College. You can learn exam dates and location by calling 860-515-3708.

What is the cost of the exams?

Each of these exams costs \$100, plus the cost of textbooks.

Is there scholarship money available?

If you are currently working in early care, meet one of the priorities for scholarships and are income eligible, the Connecticut Charts-A-Course at Office of Early Childhood Scholarship Assistance Program can help you pay for these exams. Information is available at: www.ctcharts.org or by calling 800-832-7784.

How do I register?

To register to take an exam at Charter Oak State College, call the testing office at: 860-515-3708.

How much credit will I earn?

You will earn three credits for each exam successfully completed. A total of fifteen credits is possible if you take and pass all five exams. You may request a Charter Oak State College transcript to be sent to the college of your choice.

Who will accept these credits?

All of the Connecticut Community Colleges and Post University accept these credits. The credits can also be used toward a degree at Charter Oak State College. Many other colleges and universities may accept these credits in place of their own courses, or the credits may be used as elective credits. It is suggested that students call the institution where they want to use the credits to ask questions about how the credits will transfer.