

Date of Board Meeting: November 18, 2025**Subject:** Associate of Arts (AA) Degree in Education**Recommendation:** Approve a New Associate of Arts Degree in Education, effective fall 2026**Background and Rationale:**

WCJC currently offers an Elementary Education Associate of Arts (AA) track listed under the General Studies Classification of Instructional Program (CIP) 24.0102. This request seeks approval to replace the existing program with a new AA degree in Education with CIP 13.1206 since the field of education falls on the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's high-demand occupations list. Teacher preparation programs identified under various Education CIPs (13.12xx) align with the Texas House Bill 8 funding model that relies on specific CIP codes. Education majors benefit from steady job prospects, competitive starting salaries relative to other liberal-arts fields, and the opportunity to transfer to a university to seek advanced degrees in education, curriculum design, or leadership.

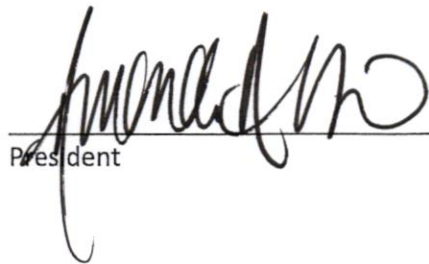
In Texas, many community colleges use a similar CIP of 13.1202, 13.1206, or 13.1210 for academic degrees in Education that prepare students for teaching careers in early childhood, elementary, secondary, or multiple levels of education. The proposed degree plan allows flexibility for students to select EC-6 or 7-12 training. The degree plan offers coursework in child development, teaching methods, and field experiences that create a clear pathway to transfer into a bachelor's program leading to teacher certification. In contrast, a General Studies degree offers a broader base of knowledge but does not provide the specialized preparation or streamlined transfer opportunities required for entry into a professional educator program.

Additionally, current resources are sufficient. No new courses, faculty, or facility space will be needed to support the program.

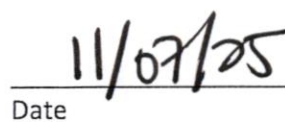
Budgetary Implications: None**Strategic Priority Alignment:**
☒ Student Success ☐ Community Impact
☒ Resource Optimization ☐ Institutional Excellence**Resource Personnel:** Sandra McCarstle, Program Director for Education & Early Childhood**Approval:****Leigh Ann Collins** Digitally signed by Leigh Ann Collins
Date: 2025.11.07 12:47:08 -06'00'

Cabinet Member

Date



President


11/07/25
Date

Education
Associate of Arts (CIP 13.1206)

This is a recommended academic map for students planning to transfer to a university to earn a bachelor's degree in education. WCJC's Education Instruction program introduces educational theory and teaching methods while meeting WCJC degree requirements and preparing students to transfer to any four-year Texas public university. This map is designed for students seeking teacher certification in EC-3, EC-6, or 4-8 Core Subjects. Students wishing to pursue 7-12 certification should choose electives within their subject-area-specific pathway aligned with their intended teaching field. A criminal background check is required for course participation, and an institutional GPA of 2.0 or higher is required for graduation. Students should confirm transferability of courses with their intended university and seek academic advising during their first semester. College Readiness Courses may be required if placement scores indicate a need.

Courses

College Readiness Courses (if needed)

Semester I	Hours
ENGL 1301 Composition I (Core 010)	3
MATH 1314 College Algebra (Core 020)	3
HIST 1301 United States History I (Core 060)	3
SPCH 1315 Public Speaking or SPCH 1318 Interpersonal Communication (Core 090)	3
Transfer Elective	3
Semester 1 Hours	15
Semester II	
ENGL 1302 Composition II (Core 010)	3
HIST 1302 United States History II (Core 060)	3
EDUC 1301 Introduction to the Teaching Profession	3
Transfer Elective	3
Transfer Elective	3
Semester 2 Hours	15
Semester III	
Creative Arts (Core 050)	3
Life & Physical Science (Core 030)	3
Social & Behavioral Science 080 (3 hours)	3
GOVT 2305 Federal Government (Core 070)	3
EDUC 2301 Introduction to Special Population Populations	3
Semester 3 Hours	15
Semester IV	
Select one course from the Core Curriculum 090 Component Area. **	3

Life & Physical Science 030	3
GOVT 2306 Texas Government (Core 070)	3
Language, Philosophy, & Culture 040 (3 hours)	3
Transfer Elective	3
Semester 4 Hours	15
60 Semester Credit Hours	

Transfer Electives: Check with transfer university for approved electives Teacher certification requires a baccalaureate degree, and students should seek advising from the institution to which they intend to transfer to be informed of updated transfer information.

BIOL 1407 General Biology II

COSC 1301 Introduction to Computing

GEOL 1303 Physical Geology

GEOG 1303 – World Regional Geography

HIST 2301 Texas History

MATH 1342 Elementary Statistical Methods

MATH 1350 Mathematics for Teachers I*

MATH 1351 Mathematics for Teachers II*

SOCI 2301 Marriage & the Family

TECA 1311 Education Young Children or

TECA 1318 Wellness of the Young Child or

TECA 1354 Child Growth & Development

TECA 1303 – Families, School & Community

PHYS 1401 College Physics I

PSYC 2314 – Human Growth & Development

*Suggested Coursework for Students Seeking EC–6 or 4–8 Core Subjects Teaching Certification

** Suggested course for students planning to transfer to the University of Houston - CHEM 1405 Introductory Chemistry I