



Alignment of Initial and Advanced CEC Professional Preparation Standards and Elements (2012), 2010 NAEYC Standards for Initial & Advanced Early Childhood Professional Preparation Programs, and DEC Initial and Advanced Specialty Sets: Early Childhood Special Education/Early Intervention (2017)



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Individuals who work with children birth through 8 years in early childhood education (ECE) and early childhood special education (ECSE) settings must possess, to a degree congruent with their roles, the knowledge and skills for working with infants, toddlers, and preschoolers who have special needs and their families.

Purpose of this Alignment

This document supports the alignment of higher education curriculum at both the initial (preservice) and advanced (inservice) levels of preparation for personnel working with infants, toddlers, and preschoolers who have special needs and their families with the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), Division for Early Childhood (DEC), and National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) standards.

While programs must consider all sets of standards in their entirety based on the type of higher education degree administered, this alignment assists higher education personnel, when designing curriculum and preparing documentation for accreditation, to understand when and how these sets of standards intersect. This alignment is designed as a resource to accompany the full sets of standards for the following types of higher education degree programs in the design, implementation, and evaluation of initial and advanced curricula:

Type of Higher Education Degree Program	Associated Standards
Blended ECE/ECSE	State standards where applicable, CEC Standards, the DEC Specialty Sets , and the NAEYC Standards
ECE	State standards where applicable and the NAEYC Standards
ECSE	State standards where applicable, CEC Standards, and the DEC Specialty Sets