

# FINDING

# Work in ...

Informing  
Attracting  
Developing  
Retaining



## EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATOR

### QUICK FACTS

- Know the needs of children and their families.
- A Level One Orientation Certificate or experience in a related field.
- First Aid and Child CPR certification.
- Child Welfare Check
- Criminal Record Check (Vulnerable Sector).
- A good work ethic and flexibility.
- On-the-job training is provided.
- Full-time, part-time or casual positions are available.
- Most childcare centers are government accredited (except playschools).
- Employee benefits may be available.

### NATURE OF WORK

- Planning and setting up programming for children.
- Watching and including the children's interests into the programming.
- Playing, singing and interacting with children.
- Providing a safe and happy setting for children.
- Play and activities suitable to the child's age and developmental growth.
- Talking with parents on a regular basis.
- Working and playing with children up to 6 or 7 hours a day.
- Making craft activities, meals and/or snacks.
- Cleaning, picking up toys, and helping in the bathroom.
- Keeping track of the children's progress.
- Following the Alberta Children's Services Licensing regulations.
- Light to heavy lifting. Must be able to lift children.
- Frequent bending.
- Standing for long periods of time.
- Working with children on the floor for long periods of time.

- Work is mainly indoors but does include the outdoors for field trips and playtime.
- The average hourly wage range in a daycare setting in Southeastern Alberta is \$8.00 to \$16.00 per hour depending on education and experience.
- For additional information, visit [www.alis.gov.ab.ca](http://www.alis.gov.ab.ca) (NOC# 4214.1)



### WHAT EMPLOYERS LOOK FOR

- Level One Orientation or related childcare experience.
- Early Childhood Development Level Two or Level Three is preferred.
- First Aid and CPR Level C certification.
- Experience as a youth leader or volunteer with children and families is an asset.
- Certification as a Teacher's Assistant is an asset.
- Professional Development courses such as Sign Language and Story Telling are an asset.
- Practicum experience within schools, day care programs, and preschool programs is an asset.
- Ability to work independently with minimal supervision.
- Ability to work with others as a team player.
- Must be physically fit to perform all duties for the job.



- Good communication skills.
- A good attitude and caring personality.
- Friendly and patient.
- Flexibility to work a variety of work schedules.
- Transportation to get to and from work.

### *RELATED TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES*

- Medicine Hat College: Level One Orientation (available at no cost). ([www.mhc.ab.ca](http://www.mhc.ab.ca))
- Medicine Hat College (Medicine Hat and Brooks campuses): Level Two and Level Three Early Childhood Development Program ([www.mhc.ab.ca](http://www.mhc.ab.ca)) ([www.mhc.ab.ca/brookscampus](http://www.mhc.ab.ca/brookscampus))
- Medicine Hat College offers related night courses ([www.mhc.ab.ca](http://www.mhc.ab.ca))
- On-line courses available:
  - Grant McEwan College ([www.gmcc.ab.ca](http://www.gmcc.ab.ca)),
  - Red Deer College ([www.rdc.ab.ca](http://www.rdc.ab.ca)),
  - Bow Valley Distance Learning ([www.bowvalleycollege.ca](http://www.bowvalleycollege.ca))
- Employers provide on-the-job training.
- Look to the local community or within Alberta for additional training and workshops.
- Visit the **Corporate Education Network** for additional training opportunities specifically in Southeast Alberta ([www.cenetnetwork.ca](http://www.cenetnetwork.ca))

### *OPPORTUNITIES & ADVANCEMENTS*

- Childcare experience may provide job opportunities within local school districts as teacher's assistants and special needs teachers.
- Experience, on-going education, reliability and motivation are important to advance to positions such as Program Director or Assistant Director.
- Volunteering and participating on local and provincial boards provide additional opportunities and advancements.
- There may be the opportunity to start and operate your own childcare or day home business.

### *HOW TO APPLY*

- Hiring procedures vary depending on the employer. Generally, job seekers are to submit a resume or complete a company application form. Apply in person, by mail or by fax. Applying in person is preferred.
- In some cases, a company application form may be available on-line at the company website. A formal interview will follow.
- Check [www.jobbank.gc.ca](http://www.jobbank.gc.ca) for current job listings in Southeast Alberta.

### *POTENTIAL EMPLOYERS*

- Building Blocks Playschool ([www.bbbs.ca](http://www.bbbs.ca))
- Busy Bees Preschool (no website available)
- Calder Circle Children's Centre (no website available)
- Children's Corner Childcare Center (no website available)
- Cypress Montessori Preschool (no website available)
- Dragon's & Butterflies Creative Preschool (no website available)
- Herald School Daycare (no website available)
- KidsPlay Preschool (no website available)
- King's Castle Day Care Services (no website available)
- Little Angels Preschool (no website available)
- Medicine Hat College Child Development Center ([www.mhc.ab.ca/services/child\\_development.html](http://www.mhc.ab.ca/services/child_development.html))
- Mother Nature's Preschool Inc. ([www.elmstreet.schools.sd76.ab.ca/Programs/Mother\\_Nature.HTM](http://www.elmstreet.schools.sd76.ab.ca/Programs/Mother_Nature.HTM))
- Newell Integrated Childcare Center, Brooks (no website available)
- Rainbow Day Care Centre (no website available)
- Salvation Army Rise N Shine Daycare (no website available)
- Southview Kiddie Kampus ([www.svkk.com](http://www.svkk.com))
- Victorian Order of Nurses (VON) ([www.von.ca](http://www.von.ca))
- YMCA John Miller Day Care ([www.ymca-medicinehat.org](http://www.ymca-medicinehat.org))