



## **Career Information**

### **Early Learning & Childcare**

#### **Overview**

**Career Title: Early Learning and Childcare Professional**

**Industry/Field: Human Service Careers**

Early childhood educators plan, organize, and initiate activities to help children develop and learn intellectually, physically, and emotionally. They work with infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and school-aged children in a variety of settings. They also build relationships with parents and other professionals

Date	January 2025 Updated
Required Education & Skills	<p><b>Hard Skills:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Learn about each child and create curriculum based on that learning</li><li>• Document interactions with children, parents and professionals clearly</li><li>• Be grounded in ethical decision making and practice</li><li>• Communicate and work respectfully with children, parents and other professionals</li><li>• Use consistent, positive strategies to guide children’s behavior</li></ul> <p><b>Soft Skills:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Compassionate, patient and empathetic</li><li>• Maturity and commitment</li><li>• Be playful, sensitive and caring towards children</li><li>• Must be physically and emotionally well</li><li>• Strong communication skills, both written and verbal</li><li>• Strong organizational skills and time management skills</li><li>• Model respectful behavior and language</li></ul>
Job Market & Outlook	<p><b>Current Demand:</b> Alberta's projected job growth for Early Learning &amp; Childcare Professionals is influenced by an increase as members of the baby boomer generation retire over the next few years.</p> <p><b>Projected Growth:</b> 2% job growth by 2030.</p> <p><b>Salary Information:</b> These are average national salaries, experience, and geographical location will alter your salary.</p> <p><b>Entry-level:</b> \$33,000.00 per year</p> <p><b>Mid-level:</b> \$37,000.00 per year</p> <p><b>Experienced:</b> \$44,000.00+ per year</p>

### Pros & Cons of this Career

**Pros:**

- Rewarding work with young children
- Career growth and opportunities are endless
- You get to have fun every day
- You get to be a part of shaping young minds
- Assisting children in need

**Cons:**

- High burnout rates
- Work schedule stays the same, hours can be long
- High stress levels
- Emotionally & physically demanding
- Minimal training required

This information has been compiled using publicly accessible provincial and federal data sources.

