

## PHILOSOPHY

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All children deserve a good beginning in life. The staff of the Child Development & Education Center believes that it must work to meet the needs of the whole child; respect and recognize individual differences in children and their families; and provide a safe, physical and psychological environment where children are accepted, nurtured and listened to. Parents and the CDEC staff are partners in providing care and education for young children. Thus, mutual respect and open communication must exist among parents, staff, and administration of the CDEC. All people associated with the CDEC - children, students, parents, and staff - are lifelong learners, ever changing and growing in knowledge and understanding.



NORTHWEST FLORIDA  
STATE COLLEGE

## THE MARY LOU O'CONNOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT & EDUCATION CENTER



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*Northwest Florida State College is committed to equal access/equal opportunity in its programs, activities, and employment. For additional information, visit [www.nwfsc.edu](http://www.nwfsc.edu).  
Materiales de la Universidad son disponibles en Español llamando a la Oficina de Admisiones de Northwest Florida State College al 850-729-5205.*

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**Northwest Florida State College**

100 College Boulevard East  
Niceville, FL 32578

(850) 729-5343

**Florida License No. CO10K0018**

Accredited by NAEYC's  
National Academy of Early Childhood  
Programs



## MISSION OF THE CDEC

The mission of the Child Development and Education Center is:

- To provide quality care and education for young children, ages 2 and a half to 5 years
- To provide parents who are Northwest Florida State College students, staff, faculty and community members (on a space available basis) with quality, accessible child care and education for their children
- To provide a quality training site for child development/early childhood education students

### ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS

1. Child must be between the ages of 2 and a half and 5 years old.
2. Child must be independently toilet trained. (Able to handle own clothing and take care of personal hygiene.)
3. Child must have an official Department of Children and Families health certificate issued in the last year.
4. Child must have up-to-date Department of Children and Families immunization record.
5. Priority of placement is given to NWF State College students, staff and faculty.

## DAYS & HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday through Friday  
7:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.

CHILD CARE FEES 2024-2025*	
Annual Registration Fee:	\$155.00 Annual** <i>** Annual Fee Waived for Faculty/Staff/Students</i>
Daily Child Care Fees:	\$37.00 Daily
Monday-Friday (VPK - Wrap-Around 3.75 hours of care funded by OEL)	\$31.00 Daily

### ATTENDANCE OPTIONS\*

Children who will be/are between the ages of 2 and a half and 4, but not 4 years old by 9/1/2023, may be enrolled

- 5 days .....Monday - Friday
- 3 days ..... Monday, Wednesday, Friday
- 2 days .....Tuesday, Thursday

Children who are 4 by 9/1/2024 are eligible to participate in the Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten Program and may attend

- 5 days per week with full day care. Parent must pay for care before and after the 3.75 hour VPK portion of the day.

### APPLICATION PROCESS\*

Parents may complete an application by coming to the CDEC office in Building 530.

*\* Subject to change*

## THE CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

Children learn by doing. The environment of the CDEC invites children to learn by interacting with teachers, materials, and other children. The program promotes emotional, cognitive, and physical development by providing opportunities for each child:

- To experience a sense of self-esteem
- To exhibit a positive attitude toward life
- To demonstrate cooperative, pro-social behavior
- To acquire learning and problem-solving skills
- To expand logical thinking skills
- To acquire concepts and information leading to a fuller understanding of the immediate world
- To demonstrate skills in make-believe play
- To expand verbal communication skills
- To develop beginning reading and writing skills
- To enhance gross and fine motor skills
- To use all senses in learning