

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

How long will it take me to complete a degree?

The Associate in Applied Science in Child Development will take about 5 semesters of full time (12 credit hours) courses. Earning the degree can take less or more time depending on how many hours you will take each semester.

How could a degree in Child Development help me?

Earning a degree in child development can help you in several ways. Having a short certificate or the degree will help you be more competitive for jobs. An Associate's degree is required to hold a lead teaching position in Head Start or to be a teacher's assistant in the public school system. Taking child development courses will help you gain more specialized knowledge and sharpen your skills in providing children with the best developmentally appropriate and engaging environment for optimal development for learning and growing.

Will I qualify for a scholarship if I already work in child care?

Yes, if you already work in a child care setting such as daycare or Head Start and live in Alabama, you may qualify for the scholarship. See the program director or visit

http://www.wallacestate.edu/Content/Uploads/wallacestate.edu/files/CHD_2016_Scholarships_FA_rv.pdf for more details. Deadlines for applying for the Leadership in Child Care Scholarship are June 1st and September 1st.

Is there financial aid available for me?

Many financial aid opportunities are available. You will need to fill out a FAFSA form first. Be sure to visit the financial aid website <http://www.wallacestate.edu/financial-aid> for the most current information and deadlines for applications. Child Development students can also apply for the WSCC Allied Health scholarship so be sure to check out all your options.

What if I don't have a computer at home?

The Wallace State Community College Library has many computers for students' use and is open five days a week for your convenience. Visit <http://www.wallacestate.edu/library> for more information about the library.

What if I don't have access to the Internet?

Wallace State Community College Library has several computer labs in which students can access the Internet five days each week. They also have convenient hours for students. Visit <http://www.wallacestate.edu/library> for more information about the library. Also, many local restaurants and businesses offer free Wifi and wireless access.

What if I don't really know much about computers?

If you are able to type, use email, scan and save documents, and can browse the Internet, you will be able to complete an online course. As learning anything else, it just takes a few practices and you will be on your way. Your instructor will ensure you will be able to log into your account and will go over the basics during your initial orientation to the program. There are many How-To videos found on the Internet or all kinds of skills.

How do I contact my instructor if I have a question?

Your instructor is always available through email, phone, and course messages in Blackboard to answer any of your questions. There is also a FAQ forum in Blackboard for students to use to ask and answer frequently asked questions within your courses.

How do I get textbooks?

All of the required textbooks for the Child Development Program are available at the college bookstore for your convenience which can be charged to your financial aid account. Some students also borrow and rent textbooks from other sources. Just be sure to get the correct textbook edition as listed in the course syllabus.

When do the Child Development classes meet?

CHD classes at Wallace State are online and do not meet on campus. All coursework is completed through videos and links in Blackboard. You can complete your work when you get a chance such as early in the morning or after the kids are in bed. There are deadlines to meet but you can create the best work time that suits your personal and family needs.

Will I be able to complete the courses while I also work and have a family?

CHD classes do require a commitment of your time and energy. The instructor is sensitive to students' multiple responsibilities and keeps this in mind when designing the assignments. The student has a responsibility to dedicate the time needed to adequately complete the work and is expected to follow the instructions in each course syllabi. The online format provides students with the freedom to work when it is convenient for them.

How do I know what the classes will require of me?

Course descriptions can give you a general idea of the content for each course. All course requirements are included in each of the course syllabi and are posted within Blackboard. Once registered and classes begin, you will have access to your classes in Blackboard. You are always welcome to contact your instructor when you have any questions or concerns.