



CLC VALUES

- Excellence
- Purpose
- Integrity
- Compassion
- Unity
- Inclusion

Breaking Down the Language Barrier- Creating a Spanish Language Associates Degree for Early Childhood Educators

Higher Education Forum 2023

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Demographic Overview and Need



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Lake County has higher than average demand for early childhood educators with **67% of unfilled positions** being in child care

Illinois Early Childhood Workforce Hiring Survey show that 56% of early childhood education programs find it very or **extremely difficult to find bilingual educators**

Growth in the Preschool for All Early Childhood Programs are creating more **opportunities for paraprofessionals** within the public school early childhood field.

The increase in ECE positions is 3.9% overall with a **7% increase in the ELL and Bilingual**

College of Lake County is a Hispanic-serving institution (HSI) which is defined in federal law as an accredited, degree-granting, public or private nonprofit institution of higher education with **25% or more total undergraduate Hispanic or Latino** full-time equivalent (FTE) student enrollment.

The **Early Childhood Department at CLC has 39% Hispanic students.**



A **barrier** for completion of credentials is the English college **reading and writing readiness requirements**



Implementation Needs



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Instructors that
meet
qualifications

- ECE and/or Bilingual Masters coursework
- Experience working with children(0-8)

Materials in the
Spanish
language

- Videos –need to transcribe
- OER textbooks – limited
- Professional organizations-limited in Spanish

College Wide
Transformation

- Full college supports (Registration, Financial Aid, CCN, etc.)
- Website, Marketing materials, etc.
- Curriculum map

Reporting to
Schrieber
Foundation -
Donor

Selection Process



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Complete

Complete an [online application](#)

Write

Write a 200-300 word essay about why they would like to take part in this program

Review

Review essay with a selection committee

Zoom

Zoom interviews for those selected



Creating Support Systems



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Bilingual
Program
Coordinators

Early
Childhood
Education
Learning Lab

Community
Partnerships



First Community of Learners in Spanish Modality

Spring Semester 2023

January 2023-Spring Semester

27 students accepted and enrolled in the program

Welcome Reception

- Administration and Leadership attended
- Backpack and College Regalia
- ECE Department T-shirts
- Welcome speech from the team



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Growing the Program- Fall 2023



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Students will begin
Fall 2024
Grayslake Campus



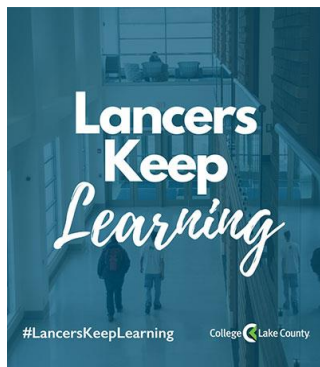
Hiring additional
Adjunct Instructors



Selection process
beginning in late April



Currently 67 students
have applied for the
Fall 2023 cohort



Testimonials from Current Students

How is this making a difference?



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Questions and Comments

How can this program work for you and your students?



Contact Information



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