



# The Michigan Infant and Toddler Caregiver Certificate Overview

## What is the Michigan Infant and Toddler Caregiver Certificate?

The Michigan Infant and Toddler Caregiver Certificate (MI-ITCC) is a new certificate program designed for entry-level educators, or those that have not yet pursued higher education in early childhood. It has been designed to recruit, train, and retain educators through supports like career planning and progression, peer support, mentoring, and professional development opportunities.

## Who is this intended for?

Educators who are early in their careers or who have not yet pursued higher education. MI-ITCC was designed to be a steppingstone from limited higher education to the CDA or more.

## What are the requirements for earning an MI-ITCC?

- Attend a Welcome Meeting, one-on-one with your consultant
- Complete the Infant and Toddler Development and Care Practices course
- Complete Infant Safe Sleep developed by MDHHS on MiRegistry
- Attend four (4) individual career planning sessions with a consultant
- Attend four (4) group meetings with a consultant and other cohort members

- Complete a Philosophy Statement
- Complete a Caregiver Reflection Tool based on the 45-hour training
- Read and acknowledge the NAEYC Code of Ethics of Early Educators
- Submit the Completion Survey
- Be/become a member of MiRegistry

## How long is a cohort and how do I apply to be part of one?

Upcoming cohorts will run from August 2026-December 2026 and February 2027-June 2027. They last about 5 months. To join, you must complete an Interest Form. Interest Forms are processed and scored using a rubric to include as many educators as possible. Complete an Interest Form on our [website!](#)

## What will I gain from this?

You will participate in a cohort with other educators also working in the field with infants and toddlers, allowing for group time to discuss your needs and wants as an educator and to help you feel supported. You get one-on-one time with a consultant who will help you with career planning and education progression plans, as well as support you in using best-practice for young children in your classroom or home. You also earn up to 56 training hours (if completing the 45-hour Infant and Toddler Development and Care Practices course during the cohort).

You will also earn a Foundational Level Three on the MiRegistry career pathway, and upon completion of all requirements you will receive a \$1,000.00 completion stipend while funding is available.

## How much does it cost to join a cohort?

Joining a cohort is free! However, there is a \$40 fee to complete the 45-hour Infant and Toddler Development and Care Practices course through Michigan Virtual. If this is a barrier for you, scholarships may be available upon request.

# Who do I reach out to if I have questions?

You can email [infanttoddler@ecic4kids.org](mailto:infanttoddler@ecic4kids.org) with any questions!



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