

# Professional Associations

Version 2

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## The Association of Early Childhood Educators of Ontario (AECEO)

The Association of Early Childhood Educators of Ontario (AECEO) is a voluntary professional association that represents the interests of Early Childhood Educators across the province. The Association of Early Childhood Educators of Ontario began as a grassroots organization in 1950. AECEO members are dedicated to creating awareness and respect for the education and care of young children in Ontario. Today, AECEO's goal is to advocate for ECEs in all areas of their work and to advocate for quality care across the Province. It is the expectation of the ECE program that the students enrolled support their professional association and become members of the AECEO.

For more information about the AECEO, please see the following link:

<https://www.aeceo.ca/>

## The College of Early Childhood Educators (CECE)

In Ontario, Early Childhood Educators must register in the College of Early Childhood Educators (CECE). The College was established under the *Early Childhood Educators Act, 2007* (ECE Act), and came into existence in February 2009. It was the first regulatory college for early childhood educators in Canada. The College monitors and supports high standards in early childhood education. It also helps to ensure Ontario's children who attend early learning and care programs are being cared for by qualified professionals. ECE graduates are eligible to become members of the College of ECE and so, to use the professional designation RECE.

The College regulates the profession of early childhood education by establishing and enforcing:

- Registration requirements;

- Ethical and professional standards for RECEs;
- Requirements for continuous professional learning; and
- Complaints and discipline process for professional misconduct, incompetence and incapacity.

For more information about the College of ECE, please see the following link:

<https://www.college-ece.ca/en/About-Us/Purpose-and-Mandate>