



ECD Practitioners

People who deliver Early Childhood Development (ECD) programmes need to be skilled at connecting with children, working with parents, designing and delivering age and developmentally appropriate programmes through a play-based learning approach.

The CotlandsIGNITETM team knows from 8 years' experience in the field, that a qualified skilled practitioner has the knowledge to help children develop a breadth of skills through play that equips them for the 4th Industrial revolution. ECD practitioners can work in a variety of settings: ECD centres, toy libraries, playgroup or home visiting programmes. Some 98% of the ECD workforce is made up of Black African females across all job titles who are either unqualified or underqualified. The sector will need 350 000 ECD facilitators, practitioners and assistants to provide sufficient access for children by 2030.

Scope of the problem



1.1 million children in South Africa do not have access to any form of early learning



Skills shortage of qualified **ECD Level 4 practitioners** to provide **quality** play-based early learning will become a **barrier to scale**

Why it matters



The first five years of a child's life is a **window of opportunity** to develop their brain through **quality play-based early learning activities**



The investment that we make now in early childhood development and early school learning will **yield great economic benefits** in the next two decades – and beyond

To address the lack of qualifications in the existing workforce the training landscape needs to make accredited training easily accessible.

Cotlands has developed a blended approach to improve access to the Early Childhood Development Practitioner Level 4 qualification and allow flexibility to achieve the qualification while working.



ECD L4 PRACTITIONER QUALIFICATION

Name of Qualification

Occupational certificate SAQA Qual. ID 97542
ECD L4 practitioner Accreditation Number:
07-QCTO/SDP270421-1507

Approach and mode of delivery

- Blended learning approach – online and contact sessions.
- Preparing an ECD practitioner to:
 - Plan and prepare holistic activities
 - Facilitate learning
 - Observe, assess, record and report on children's progress
 - Maintain and promote the well-being, health, nutrition, safety and protection of children
 - Work in a centre-based or non-centre-based setting.

Cost

The total cost per learner is R46 917 (including VAT)

This includes:

- Mentorship programme based on your learning style
- Access to all online material (131 credits)
- Helpdesk including digital literacy support
- Digital device and data

Admission recommendations:

- Recommended NQF L3 English and Maths
- Proficiency in English (language of instruction)
- Comfortable with learning online

Duration: 12 – 18 months part-time

Enrolment dates: April and October

1. Knowledge modules

- Introduction to the ECD sector
- Theories and Perspectives of Child Development
- Planning and Programme Development in early childhood settings
- Facilitation and mediation of active learning
- Observation and assessment in early childhood development
- Promotion of health, safety and well-being of children
- Administration for ECD services and programmes

2. Practical modules

- Plan and prepare inclusive educational activities and routines using an approved programme based on the curriculum framework
- Facilitate and mediate active learning in an integrated and holistic learning programme
- Observe, assess, record and report each child's progress according to the age and stage
- Support and promote the health, nutrition, safety, protection and well-being of children
- Build and maintain collaborative relationships with parents and other service providers
- Prepare and maintain administrative systems

3. Workplace modules

- Learning programme and routines planning and preparation process
- Processes of facilitating and mediating the learning programme in a variety of contexts
- Processes of observation, assessment, recording and reporting on children's learning and development
- Processes and procedures of promoting the health, nutrition, safety, protection and well-being of children in an early childhood development setting

For further information, contact:
admin@ignitepotential.co.za

Target audience:

In-service un/under qualified ECD facilitators, practitioners and assistants, school-leavers, day mothers, child-minders au pairs, childcare workers, ECD principals, ECD owners, supervisors, HOD's