



ECD Practitioners

People who deliver Early Childhood Development (ECD) programmes need to plan and facilitate activities that meet children’s health, relationship and developmental needs. They also need to work with parents and to report on children’s ongoing development.

Some 98% of the ECD workforce is made up of Black African females across all job titles who are either unqualified or underqualified. 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. 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:
 - Maintain and promote the well-being, health, nutrition, safety and protection of children
 - Plan and prepare holistic activities
 - Facilitate learning
 - Observe, assess, record and report on children's progress
 - Work in a centre-based or non-centre-based setting.

Cost

The total cost per learner is R24 131 (excluding VAT)

This includes:

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

Admission recommendations:

- Matric/Grade 12 English and Maths
- Proficiency in English (language of instruction)
- Comfortable with learning online

Duration: 12 months part-time

Enrolment dates: April and October

Course outline

Exploring early childhood development

(131 credits)

- 4 modules including knowledge, practical and workplace.
- 1 in-person session per module. Each session is over 4 consecutive days.
- 1 support session per week (online webinar)
- 1 remediation session per module (remediation being supported in areas that learners are not competent in)
- 1 external exam fee

Target audience:

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

For further information, contact:

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