**Philosophy**

We believe that:

- Taking intellectual risks and co-constructing knowledge with teachers, parents and peers is critical for positive development of the whole child.

- Children acquire knowledge of the physical and social world when they are challenged to make sense of new objects, actions, events, and relationships, relying on their prior knowledge and personal life experiences.

- Play is a primary mode of expression, a rich context for the construction of knowledge, and a fundamental right of all young children.

- Supporting, empowering, advocating for, and engaging families will facilitate the positive development of the whole child. Collaborative, equal-status family-teacher partnerships are the foundation of a culturally meaningful and family-centered curriculum.

- Teachers and family members must collaborate in the assessment of young children in order to acquire complete, accurate, and culturally-sensitive understandings of development and to make meaningful use of assessment data in planning and implementing curriculum.

Each child is unique and demonstrates a distinct pattern of learning, interaction, communication, and interest, which is nurtured by family, culture and community.

Bathed in natural sunlight, classrooms are warm and inviting, reminiscent of a home environment. Careful attention to every detail is evidenced by the soft paint colors, natural wood floors, and giant windows. Classrooms open directly onto a back patio for outdoor projects and raised garden beds for planting. Maximum enrollment for our Preschool rooms is 15, and it is 8 for our Toddler room.

Child and Family Development Resource
Promoting positive development of the whole child.
The mission of the Margaret S. Wilson Child and Family Development Resource Center of Eastern Connecticut State University is to promote the social, emotional, cognitive, aesthetic, and physical development of young children of diverse backgrounds, to inspire, support, and educate their families, to provide a model program for future teachers and early childhood professionals, and to serve as a hub of innovative research and professional development.

Curriculum
The Center implements Investigations, a curriculum for young children that was developed by university faculty, the director, and classroom teachers. The curriculum is centered around engaging projects—called investigations—on topics that are selected by children, teachers, and families. As children investigate a topic they acquire critical competencies identified in the Connecticut State Department of Education Curriculum and Assessment Framework and the standards of national professional organizations. Children's progress toward achieving these competencies is assessed through anecdotal records, sampling of children's work and play, photos and video, and interviews with parents.

Staff
Eastern Connecticut State University is very proud of its staff at the CFDRC. Staff members' credentials may include a Master’s degree in Education, a Bachelor’s degree in Early Childhood Development, or an Associate degree in Early Childhood Education. Professional development is completed each month as well as semi-annual medical training. A fully licensed nurse is present on-site and is available for individual consultation. The director has an open-door policy that enables families to build valuable relationships and access various resources.

Enrollment
The CFDRC provides a comfortable, exciting, and engaging learning environment for children 18 months to 5 years of age. Children accepted to our Toddler program will gain automatic acceptance to our Preschool program after they turn 3-years-old. Our application form can be downloaded from our website, picked up in person at the Center or requested by mail by calling 860-465-5225. Once an application is on file, families may request a tour of the facility and an opportunity to speak with the director. Children are accepted by order of application as vacancies occur.

Calendar
The CFDRC begins its academic year in September and operates year-round through August. The Center observes the same holiday calendar as the University but is open during Winter and Summer breaks. Additionally, the CFDRC is closed the afternoon of the last Friday of every month for professional development as well as one full week in August.

Tuition
Tuition rates listed below are based on a 5-day full-time schedule. Rates are adjusted accordingly for 3- and 4-day schedules and/or half-time children.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Household Income</th>
<th>Preschool</th>
<th>Toddler</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$98,000 and above</td>
<td>$263.28</td>
<td>$276.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$97,999 – 84,000</td>
<td>$227.91</td>
<td>$256.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$83,999 – 72,000</td>
<td>$207.57</td>
<td>$236.43</td>
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<tr>
<td>$71,999 – 58,000</td>
<td>$187.44</td>
<td>$213.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>$57,999 – 40,000</td>
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<td>$184.24</td>
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<tr>
<td>$39,999 – 25,000</td>
<td>$143.77</td>
<td>$164.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$24,999 and below</td>
<td>$123.54</td>
<td>$143.77</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Center Features:
- Monthly family events, such as Family Literacy Night, sponsored by the PTO
- Faculty members who provide expertise in extra-curricular activities (physical education, music, art and yoga)
- Daily meals include breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack
- State-of-the-art facility
- Low staff to child ratios