

Parenting Education Credits

As parents you have enrolled your child in the Cooperative Preschool Program and you have also enrolled yourself in the Bates Parenting Education Program. The goal of a co-op/parenting education program is to foster and support parenting and family management skills and provide an enriching and developmentally appropriate learning experience for your child.

As a working parent in the classroom you will be assisting the teacher with facilitating and supervising learning activities with the children. During this time you will observe and support child development experiences and implement positive child guidance techniques. Working in the classroom serves as the laboratory component of the Parenting Education Program.

By attending the various Parenting Education opportunities and earning the required number of credits (8) you will be fulfilling the lecture component of the Parenting Education Program.

You pay Bates Tuition Fees to enroll (one adult per family) in the Bates Parenting Education Program, which is affiliated with the Cooperative Preschool Program. As a Bates student you earn college credits; have access to the Child Studies Resource Center; and are able to take selected college early childhood classes at no extra cost.

Earning Parenting Education Credits

Parenting Education credits (which are different from college credits) are required as part of the Co-op Preschool affiliation with Bates Technical College.

Each school year parents must earn eight (8) Parenting Education credits (equivalent to one (1) credit per month the family is enrolled in the school). Parenting Education credits may be earned beginning the night of Parent Orientation until the last day of school, unless otherwise noted.

Four (4) Parent Education credits must be obtained by the end of January if you started at the beginning of the school year or one credit per month if you enroll after the beginning of the school year.

Ways in which parents may earn credits:

1. Attend **Parent Orientation Night** (mandatory); maximum of two **(2) credits** per family.
2. Attend **Parent Training** (mandatory) - *Maximum* of two **(2) credits** per family.
Risk management requires that each parent working in the classroom must be trained.
Adults cannot be scheduled to work in the classroom until they have taken Parent Training.
Working in the classroom is a mandatory obligation
3. Attend **Parenting Education meetings**. Earn one **(1) credit** for each Bates Parenting Education event or Co-op Parenting Education meeting. These are listed on the monthly calendar you receive from your Class Representative and are available from the Parent Education Chair.
4. Attend a board workshop training sponsored by Bates Technical College. Earn one **(1) credit** per year.
5. Attend a board meeting as a visitor. Earn one **(1) credit** per year.
6. Successfully complete your board or committee position for the year. Earn one **(1) credit** per

year.

7. Attend a Parenting Education meeting at another Cooperative Preschool. **(1) credit.**
8. Attend a Daytime Parenting Education meeting, called a parent share, (each meeting counts as one **(1) credit per family**).
9. Share an educational experience with the class (i.e. teach a special art project. music program, share your job: nurse, firefighter, police officer, etc.) **(1) credit**
10. Attend a Parent /Teacher conference with your co-op teacher. **(1) credit**
11. Attend the Bates Resource Center and earn one **(1) credit per year.**
12. Attend a Parenting Education Event sponsored by a community agency. Earn a maximum of one **(1) credit for a series of classes.**
13. Attend Co-op Family Events. Earn one **(1) credit per event.**
14. Attend your school's auction. **(1) credit**
15. Participate in Bates Electronic Parent Education. Once a month, a Parent Education topic will be electronically sent out to all preschools. Families can read the electronic handout and answer the questions pertaining to the handouts. **(1) credit per monthly electronic parent education.**

Earning the required parenting ed. credit is your responsibility and part of fulfilling your co-op registration agreement.

If at any time you have difficulty in earning your parenting education credits please contact your Parenting Education Chair or your Bates Instructor for help.

Thank you for your participation and support.