



# EUROPEAN CARE CERTIFICATE

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**TEST YOUR HUMAN RIGHTS APPROACH IN  
SOCIAL CARE**

For more information contact EASPD at [ecce@easpd.eu](mailto:ecce@easpd.eu).



## WHAT IS THE EUROPEAN CARE CERTIFICATE?

The European Care Certificate (ECC) is a Europe-wide qualification that has been developed to cover the basic knowledge that is required for an individual to work in a health and social care setting.

An individual can gain the ECC by completing the ECC exam. On successful completion, the ECC Certificate will be evidence that a worker has covered the Basic European Social Care Learning Outcomes (BESCLLO) which are recognised across the ECC partner countries.



## WHY IS IT USEFUL?

The Certificate was developed to support workers' mobility across Europe and to promote a common foundation in care services covering both knowledge and values. The ECC is based on the rights, inclusion, choice and independence of people with disabilities and supports the human rights model of care provision. It follows the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN CRPD), which has been endorsed by the EU as a whole.

## HOW TO GET THE ECC?

The ECC is open to everyone!

- Learners do not need to have previous experience in the social care sector or to be in employment and do not need to have gained any previous qualifications
- Learners do need to have a basic level of literacy (reading and writing) in the language in which the test is being held and to be at least 16 years old.

The ECC exam is available in multiple languages. You can take the ECC exam as an online exam or as a paper-based exam. It normally takes a maximum of one hour to complete.





## WHAT ARE BASIC EUROPEAN SOCIAL CARE LEARNING OUTCOMES (BESCLO)?

The BESCLO moves away from the old medical model of disability towards a human rights approach in social care services. They support the new thinking required by the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

There are eight essential general areas of knowledge in social care in the BESCLO. The full content of the BESCLO (including details of what candidates need to be able to demonstrate knowledge of) is available on the ECC website at [www.eccertificate.eu](http://www.eccertificate.eu)



## HOW WILL THE ECC HELP ME?

### I AM A WORKER

You can demonstrate by having the ECC that you have the basic knowledge needed to work in the social care sector. The ECC establishes a common base for knowledge of entry level care staff across Europe and provides an accessible and transferable certificate for workers and employers.

The ECC can make it easier for workers to find jobs in the care sector in their home country as well as in other EU countries.

### I AM AN EMPLOYER

The ECC can help an employer when:

- Recruiting new staff: some employers have used the ECC exam as a tool to assess the candidates. It enables them to check that someone can demonstrate the learning covered in the BESCLO.
- Improving the quality of the work of their existing staff by requiring staff to pass the ECC as a basic requirement. This demonstrates not only that they have basic knowledge but also that they share the ECC's up-to-date values.

### I WORK FOR A TRAINING PROVIDER/ EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

You can train people so that they can sit and pass the ECC exam. You can either incorporate ECC in a course you already offer (with changes if any are needed) leading to another award, or through a specific course you design and deliver just to pass the ECC.





## ECC TRAINING COURSES

We have developed training courses specifically designed to help employees, training providers and education institutions train staff in all areas of the BESCLO and pass the ECC exam. The courses are:

### 1. The European Care Certificate (ECC) course

*"Best Practice in Social Care"* – Meeting core European social care learning outcomes – a staff training course specially written to cover all the BESCLO.

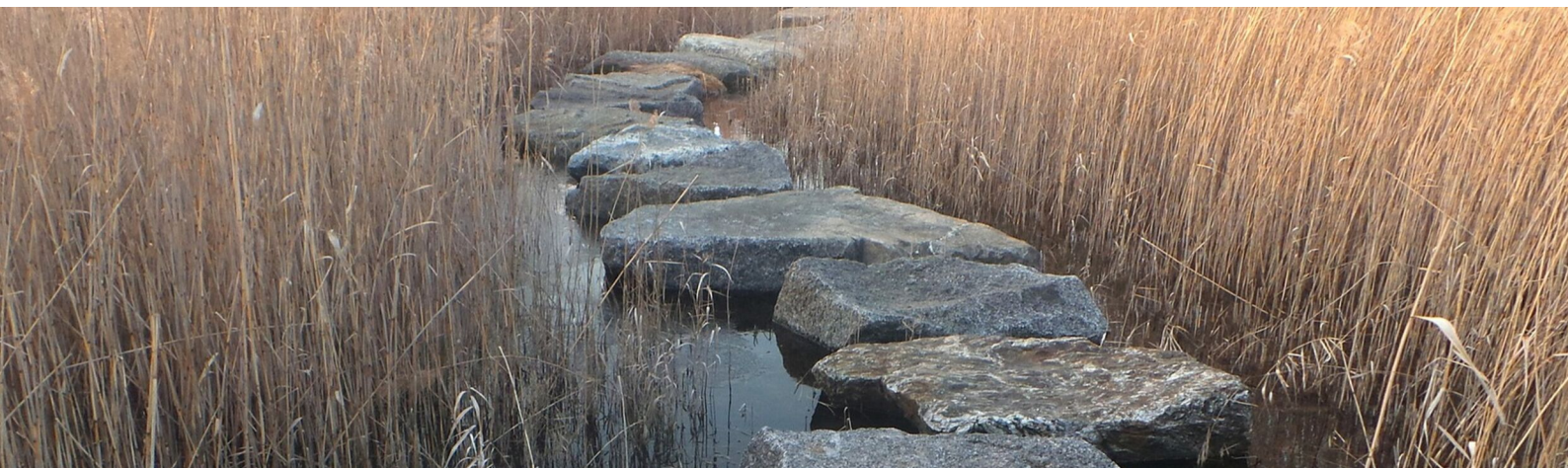
### 2. European Care Certificate Train-the-trainer course

*"Doing things right in Social Care"* – Training guidance for trainers delivering the 'Best Practice in Social Care' course.

### 3. Mentor's Training course

This course (based on the UN CRPD principles) is a complete training package for experienced workers to train them to become mentors in the social care workplace, using the BESCLO as the underpinning knowledge and guide. We have demonstrated that mentoring improves staff performance and also the quality of care delivered to the people those staff support.

**All these three courses are freely available in several languages and have been 'localised' to make them more culturally and practically suitable for use in those countries.**



## DO YOU WANT TO BE INVOLVED IN ECC?

The ECC Board is working to make the ECC available in every country in the EU and build on the formal EQF accreditation achieved at EQF level 3 and the training materials we have developed.

Please visit the ECC website on [www.eccertificate.eu](http://www.eccertificate.eu) where you can find more information and contact us at [ecc@easped.eu](mailto:ecc@easped.eu).