



FORMAL EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Child Care Standards

[65C-22.001\(6\)](#), and [65C-20.008\(6\)](#), Florida Administrative Code

A child care professional using a formal education to meet the staff credential requirement, must have one of the following:

- A) B.A., B.S. or advanced degree in **ONE** of the following areas:
- ✓ Early Childhood Education/Child Development,
 - ✓ Pre-Kindergarten or Primary Education,
 - ✓ Preschool Education,
 - ✓ Family and Consumer Sciences (formerly Home Economics/Child Development),
 - ✓ Exceptional Student Education,
 - ✓ Special Education,
 - ✓ Mental Disabilities,
 - ✓ Specific Learning Disabilities,
 - ✓ Physically Impaired,
 - ✓ Varying Exceptionalities,
 - ✓ Emotional Disabilities,
 - ✓ Visually Impaired,
 - ✓ Hearing Impaired,
 - ✓ Speech-Language Pathology, or
 - ✓ Elementary Education with certification to teach any age birth through 6th grade (certification may be inactive provided the certificate is not suspended/revoked).
- B) A.S., A.A. degree or higher in Early Childhood Education/Child Development
- C) Associate's degree or higher **WITH** at least six (6) college credit hours in early childhood education/child development **AND** at least 480 hours experience in a child care setting serving children ages birth through eight (8).

Degrees must be earned from an [accredited](#) institution.

If a college degree is earned outside the U.S., it must be evaluated by an approved credential [evaluation agency approved by the Bureau of Educators Certification](#) or an accredited college/university to be equivalent to a U.S. degree.

Staff credentials met through formal education qualifications do not expire.

[Download](#) a copy of the Florida Child Care Staff Credential Application, CF-FSP 5211, October 2017.