

COLORADO STATE PRESCHOOL TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

Preschool Teachers need to be qualified by state standards, in any ONE (1) of the following ways:

Option #1. A 4 year degree in Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Special Education, Family and Child Development or Child Psychology. No additional experience required.

Option #2. A 4 Bachelor's (4 year) degree in an unrelated field and 2 early childhood education college courses with one of the courses being either Early Childhood Education OR Guidance Strategies. At least six (6) months of verified experience in the care and supervision of four (4) or more children under six (6) years of age who are not related to the individual.

Option # 3. A 2-year college degree in Early Childhood Education which includes at least 2 Early Childhood college courses, one of which must be Introduction to Early Childhood Education OR Guidance Strategies. At least six (6) months verified experience as listed in Option #2.

Option # 4. Completion of twelve (12) semester hours from a regionally accredited college or university at either a two year, four year or graduate level, in Early Childhood Education. One of the three (3) semester hour courses must be EITHER introduction to early childhood education or guidance strategies. At least nine (9) months (1,395 hours) of verified experience as listed in Option #2.

Option #5. A current certification as a Child Development Associate (CDA) or Certified Child Care Professional (CCP) or other Department approved credential. No college course work required. No additional experience required.

Option # 6. Completion of a vocational or occupational education sequence in child growth and development. No college course work required. PLUS 12 months (1820 hours) of verified experience.

Option # 7. A current Colorado Level I teaching credential. PLUS Twenty-four (24) months (3640 hours) of verified experience in the care and supervision of four (4) or more children under the age of (6) who are not related to the individual.

Option # 8. Two (2) 3 credit Early Childhood college courses with one being Intro to ECE. PLUS Twenty-four (24) months (3640 hours) of verified experience in the care and supervision of four (4) or more children under six (6) years of age who are not related to the individual.