

Entry-Level Training Requirements Group Child Care Centers

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Director of a center licensed to care for 50 or fewer children DCF 251.05(3)(e)3.		
Column 1 Experience / Other	Column 2 Preservice training	Column 3 Additional training
<p>a. Be at least 21 years of age; and</p> <p>b. Have completed high school or its equivalent as determined by the Wisconsin department of public instruction; and</p> <p>c. Have at least 320 hours of experience as a teacher or assistant teacher in a group child care center or other approved setting or have at least 320 hours of experience as a licensee of a family child care center under ch. DCF 250.</p> <p>d. Have completed at least one of the preservice training requirements in column 2. The center director shall also complete the corresponding additional training requirements in column 3 within the prescribed timeframe.</p>	Two courses for credit in early childhood education.	Within one year of assuming the position, one course in the Wisconsin Child Care Administrator Credential or its equivalent
	The Wisconsin Program Development Credential	Within one year of assuming the position, one course in the Wisconsin Child Care Administrator Credential or its equivalent
	The Wisconsin Preschool Credential	Within one year of assuming the position, one course in the Wisconsin Child Care Administrator Credential or its equivalent
	The Wisconsin Infant–Toddler Credential	Within one year of assuming the position, one course in the Wisconsin Child Care Administrator Credential
	Two non-credit department-approved courses in early childhood education.	Within one year of assuming the position, one course in the Wisconsin Child Care Administrator Credential or its equivalent
	One course for credit and one non-credit department-approved course in early childhood education.	Within one year of assuming the position, one course in the Wisconsin Child Care Administrator Credential or its equivalent
	Forty-eight credits from an institution of higher education with at least 3 credits in early childhood education	Within one year of assuming the position, one course in the Wisconsin Child Care Administrator Credential or its equivalent
	A Child Development Associate (CDA) credential issued by the Council for Professional Recognition	Within one year of assuming the position, one course in the Wisconsin Child Care Administrator Credential or its equivalent
	A certificate from The Registry indicating the person is preliminarily qualified as a director for a center licensed to care for 50 or fewer children	Within one year of assuming the position, one course in the Wisconsin Child Care Administrator Credential or its equivalent
	A one-year diploma in child care or early childhood education from an institution of higher education	No additional training required
	An associate degree in early childhood education or child care from an institution of higher education	No additional training required
	A bachelor's degree from an institution of higher education in early childhood education, education, or child development	No additional training required
	A license issued by the Wisconsin department of public instruction indicating that the person is qualified to act as a pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, or early childhood regular or special education teacher. The license may not be a one-year license with stipulations (formerly known as an emergency license); a 3-year, short-term substitute license; or a 5-year long-term substitute license, as defined by the Wisconsin department of public instruction.	No additional training required

Note: A person is not required to complete preservice training if the person was employed as the director of a center licensed to serve 50 or fewer children prior to September 30, 2019, and met the preservice training requirement with a certificate from The Registry indicating the person was on Registry Level 12 or above.

Director of a center licensed to care for 51 or more children DCF 251.05(3)(e)4.		
Column 1 Experience / Other	Column 2 Preservice training	Column 3 Additional training
<p>a. Be at least 21 years of age; and</p> <p>b. Have completed high school or its equivalent, as determined by the Wisconsin department of public instruction; and</p> <p>c. Have at least 2 years of experience as a child care teacher or center director in a group child care center or other approved setting; and</p> <p>d. Have completed one of the preservice training requirements in column 2 prior to beginning work. The center director shall also complete the corresponding additional training requirement in column 3 within the prescribed timeframe.</p>	Four courses for credit in early childhood education from an institution of higher education. Up to 2 courses in the Wisconsin Child Care Administrator Credential series may be used to meet the early childhood education requirement if taken prior to beginning to work as a center director.	Within 3 years of assuming the position the Wisconsin Child Care Administrator Credential
	The Wisconsin Program Development Credential	Within 3 years of assuming the position, the Wisconsin Child Care Administrator Credential
	The Wisconsin Preschool Credential	Within 3 years of assuming the position, the Wisconsin Child Care Administrator Credential
	The Wisconsin Infant – Toddler Credential	Within 3 years of assuming the position, the Wisconsin Child Care Administrator Credential
	A combination of 4 courses for credit and non-credit department-approved courses in early childhood education. Up to 2 courses in the Wisconsin Child Care Administrator Credential series may be used to meet the early childhood education requirement if taken prior to beginning to work as a center director.	Within 3 years of assuming the position the Wisconsin Child Care Administrator Credential
	A certificate from The Registry indicating that the person is preliminarily qualified as a director for a center licensed to care for 51 or more children	Within 3 years of assuming the position, the Wisconsin Child Care Administrator Credential
	An associate degree in early childhood education or child care from an institution of higher education.	No additional training required
	A bachelor's degree in early childhood education, education, or child development from an institution of higher education	No additional training required
A license issued by the Wisconsin department of public instruction or the appropriate authority in another state to be a pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, or early childhood regular or special education teacher. The license may not be a one-year license with stipulations (formerly known as an emergency license); a 3-year, short-term substitute license; or a 5-year long-term substitute license, as defined by the Wisconsin department of public instruction.	No additional training required	

Note: A person is not required to complete preservice training if the person was employed as the director of a center licensed to serve 51 or more children prior to September 30, 2019, and met the preservice training requirement with a certificate from The Registry indicating the person was on Registry Level 14 or above.

Child Care Teacher DCF 251.05(3)(f)	
Column 1 Experience / Other	Column 2 Education
<p>2.a. Be at least 18 years of age; and</p> <p>2.b. Have completed high school or its equivalent, as determined by the Wisconsin department of public instruction; and</p> <p>2.c. Have at least 320 hours of experience as an assistant child care teacher in a group child care center or other approved early childhood setting; and</p> <p>3. Have completed or obtained one of the items listed in column 2 prior to assuming the position.</p>	3.a. Two courses for credit in early childhood education or its equivalent from an institution of higher education.
	3.b. Two non-credit department-approved courses in early childhood education.
	3.bm. One course for credit in early childhood education and one non-credit department-approved course in early childhood education.
	3.c. Certificate from The Registry indicating that the person is qualified as a child care teacher.
	3.d. A Wisconsin Preschool Credential.
	3.e. A Wisconsin Infant-Toddler Credential.
	3.f. Forty-eight credits from an institution of higher education with at least 3 credits in early childhood education or its equivalent.
	3.g. A one-year child care diploma in child care or early childhood education from an institution of higher education.
	3.h. An associate degree in early childhood education or child care from an institution of higher education.
	3.i. A Child Development Associate credential issued by the Council for Professional Recognition.
	3.j. Certificate from American Montessori Society, Association Montessori International, or Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education.
	3.k. A license issued by the Wisconsin department of public instruction or the appropriate authority in another state to be a pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, or early childhood regular or special education teacher. The license may not be a one-year license with stipulations (formerly known as an emergency license); a 3-year, short-term substitute license; or a 5-year long-term substitute license, as defined by the Wisconsin department of public instruction.
	3.L. A certificate from the department of workforce development, bureau of apprenticeship standards, as a child development specialist.