

Delaware Early Childhood Career Lattice

A listing of educational requirements and corresponding career opportunities for employment in the early childhood field

Educational Steps	Early Childhood Positions
Step 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Completed <i>Introduction</i> course: 12 hours Family Child Care; 15-18 hours Early Care and Education or School Age Centers ❖ Delaware First (DPEC) or DelaCare qualified 	Family Child Care Level 1 Licensee (old rules-grandfathered position); Large Family Child Care Assistant; Early Childhood Caregiver (grandfathered position); Early Childhood Intern; School -Age Intern; School-Age Site Assistant
Step 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ High School Diploma or GED certificate ❖ Delaware First (DPEC) or DelaCare qualified 	Family Child Care Level I Licensee (2009- new Rules)
Step 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Successful completion of Training for Early Care & Education (TECE) I; or 3 ECE credits; or 60 clock hours** ❖ Delaware First (DPEC) or DelaCare qualified 	Early Childhood Assistant Teacher; School-Age Site Assistant; Level II Family Child Care Licensee**
Step 4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Successful completion of Training for Early Care and Education (TECE) I & 2; or 9 ECE credits or Valid CDA ❖ Delaware First (DPEC) or DelaCare qualified 	Early Childhood Teacher; Large Family Child Care Licensee; Head Start Teacher/Assistant Teacher (CDA or 12 ECE credits); <i>CDA Advisor</i> ; <i>Family Child Care Accreditation Validator</i>
Step 4.5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Early Childhood Credential (Inclusion, School-Age, Preschool, Infant Toddler) ❖ Early Childhood Journey person (completed two year EC Apprenticeship) 	
Step 5: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ 15 ECE credits; or 12 SA related credits ❖ Delaware First (DPEC) or DelaCare qualified ❖ Montessori Associate Credential (infant toddler or early childhood) 	Curriculum Coordinator (without degree-grandfathered position); Early Childhood Administrator (without a degree-grandfathered position); School-Age Site Coordinator; Montessori Assistant Teacher
Step 5.5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Early Childhood Credential (Inclusion, School-Age, Preschool, Infant Toddler) ❖ Early Childhood Administration Credential 	
Step 6: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ 30 college credits, must include 15 ECE or 12 SA 	
Step 6.5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Early Childhood Credential (Inclusion, School-Age, Preschool, Infant Toddler) ❖ Early Childhood Administration Credential 	
Step 7: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ AA/AS, must include 15 ECE or 12 SA ❖ Delaware First (DPEC) qualified <hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ <i>Additional training or education may be required for these positions related to ECE or SA field; may not need 15 credits in ECE or SA</i> 	Head Start Teacher; Early Head Start Home Visitor; Early Childhood Administrator; Early Childhood Curriculum Coordinator; School-Age Administrator <hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/> <i>Basic Instructor; Parent Educator; Family Service Worker; Home Visitor; Therapy Assistant; Para-Educator; POC Monitor; CACFP Monitor</i>
Step 7.5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Early Childhood Credential(Inclusion, School-Age, Preschool, Infant Toddler) ❖ Early Childhood Administration Credential 	
Step 8: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ BA/BS, must include 15 ECE or 12 SA ❖ Montessori Credential (infant toddler, early childhood, or administration) <hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ <i>Additional training or education may be required for these positions related to ECE or SA field; may not need 15 credits in ECE or SA</i> 	Montessori Lead Teacher (IT, SA or EC); Head Start Program/Center Coordinator; <i>Early Head Start Program Coordinator; Early Head Start Family Advocate; CDA Representative, Montessori Administrator</i> <hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/> <i>Intermediate or Master Instructor; Mentor; Coach; Technical Assistant; Assessor; Preschool Special Education Teacher; Early</i>

	<i>Childhood Special Educator; Public School Teacher; Resource and Referral Specialist; Licensing Specialist; Community College Instructor; Child Life Specialist; Career Advisor; NAEYC Accreditation Validator; Child Development Specialist; Child Care Health Consultant; Early Intervention Service Coordinator</i>
Step 8.5 ❖ Early Childhood Credential(Inclusion, School-Age, Preschool, Infant Toddler) ❖ Early Childhood Administration Credential	
Step 9: ❖ MA/MS, must include 15 ECE or 12 SA ----- ❖ <i>Additional training or education may be required for these positions related to ECE or SA field; may not need 15 credits in ECE or SA</i>	Early Head Start Director ----- <i>Occupational Therapist; Physical Therapist; Speech Language Pathologist; Advanced Practical Nurse; Higher Education Faculty; School Administrator; Special Education Coordinator; Public Policy Administrator; Researcher; Counselor; Children's Librarian</i>
Step 10: ❖ PhD/EdD, must include 15 ECE or 12 SA ----- ❖ <i>Additional training or education may be required for these positions related to ECE or SA field; may not need 15 credits in ECE or SA</i>	<i>Higher Education Faculty; School District Superintendent; Psychologist</i>

Note: Continued employment in a licensed early care and education or school-age center or a family/large family child care will depend on completing required annual training hours; a valid CPR and first aid; and a professional development plan.

Developed by Delaware Department of Education in collaboration with the Delaware Institute for Excellence in Early Childhood and approved by the Professional Development Committee of the Delaware Early Childhood Council, November 2011.