



103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

HB2495

Introduced 2/15/2023, by Rep. Hoan Huynh

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

225 ILCS 10/7.11 new
225 ILCS 10/7.12 new
225 ILCS 10/7.13 new

Amends the Child Care Act of 1969. Provides qualifications for child care directors, early childhood teachers, and school-age workers at day care centers. Provides criteria that the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation shall use to review and approve early childhood teacher credentialing programs.

LRB103 24847 AMQ 51180 b

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Child Care Act of 1969 is amended by adding
5 Sections 7.11, 7.12, 7.13, and 7.14 as follows:

6 (225 ILCS 10/7.11 new)

7 Sec. 7.11. Standards for licensing of child care director
8 at day care center.

9 (a) The child care director of a facility serving the same
10 number of groups of preschool and school-age children or more
11 groups of preschool children than groups of school-age
12 children shall have achieved:

13 (1) (A) 60 semester hours or 90 quarter hours of
14 credit from an accredited college or university with 18
15 semester hours or 27 quarter hours in courses related
16 directly to child care or child development from birth to
17 age 12; (B) a bachelor's degree with a major focusing on a
18 human or social science or world history; or (C) a
19 secondary school education degree and subdiscipline with a
20 focus on human or social science, including, but not
21 limited to, social studies, family studies, human ecology,
22 world history, sociology of education, or Bachelor of Arts
23 degree-socio-psycho- or ethno-linguistics/reading.

1 (2) (A) 2 years, or 3,120 clock hours, of child
2 development experience in a nursery school, kindergarten,
3 elementary school, or licensed day care center; (B) 30
4 semester hours, or 45 quarter hours, of college credits
5 with 10 semester hours, or 15 quarter hours, in courses
6 related directly to child care or child development; and
7 (C) proof of enrollment in an accredited college or
8 university until 2 years of college credit has been
9 achieved. A total of 18 semester hours, or 27 quarter
10 hours, in courses related directly to child care or child
11 development are required to be obtained within the total 2
12 years of college credits; or

13 (3) (A) completion of a credentialing program approved
14 in accordance with Section 7.13; (B) completion of 12
15 semester hours, or 18 quarter hours, in courses related to
16 child care or child development from birth to age 12 at an
17 accredited college or university; and (C) 2 years, or
18 3,120 clock hours, in child development experience in a
19 nursery school, kindergarten, or licensed day care center.

20 (b) The child care director of a facility serving more
21 groups of school-age children than groups of preschool
22 children shall have achieved:

23 (1) 60 semester hours, or 90 quarter hours, of credit
24 from an accredited college or university with 18 semester
25 hours or 27 quarter hours in courses related to child care
26 or child development, elementary school education,

1 physical education, recreation, camping, or other related
2 fields, including courses related to school-age children;
3 or

4 (2) (A) 2 years, or 3,120 clock hours, of child
5 development experience in a recreational program,
6 kindergarten, elementary school, licensed day care center
7 servng school-age children, or license-exempt school-age
8 child care program operated by a public or private school;

9 (B) 30 semester hours, or 45 quarter hours, of college
10 credits with 10 semester hours, or 15 quarter hours, in
11 courses related directly to child care or child
12 development, elementary education, physical education,
13 recreation, camping, or other related fields; and (C)

14 proof of enrollment in an accredited college or university
15 until 2 years of college credit have been achieved. A
16 total of 18 semester hours, or 27 quarter hours, in
17 courses related directly to child care or child
18 development, elementary education, physical education,
19 recreation, camping, or other related fields, including
20 courses related to school-age children, is required to be
21 obtained within the total 2 years of college credits; or

22 (3) (A) a bachelor's degree in a major discipline with
23 a focus on a deeper and broader understanding of people
24 such as a human or social science or world history; or (B)
25 a bachelor's degree in secondary education and a
26 subdiscipline with a focus on a deeper and broader

1 understanding of people such as a human or social science,
2 social studies, family studies, human ecology, world
3 history, sociology of education, or Bachelor of Arts
4 degree-socio-psycho- or ethno-linguistics/reading, or
5 related people sciences.

6 (c) When a program or site serves only school-age
7 children, qualifications for the school-age director
8 responsible for multiple sites and the site coordinators shall
9 meet both of the following requirements for education and
10 experience:

11 (1) 60 semester hours, or 90 quarter hours, of credit
12 from an accredited college or university, with 18 semester
13 hours, or 27 quarter hours, in courses related to
14 school-age childcare, child development, elementary
15 education child care or child development, adolescent or
16 elementary education, physical education, recreation,
17 camping, or other related fields; or any social or human
18 science bachelor's degree; and

19 (2) (A) at least 1,560 clock hours of child
20 development experience in a recreational program, a
21 licensed day care center, or a licensed school serving
22 school-age children; or (B) 160 hours of child development
23 experience in a recreational program, a licensed day care
24 center, or a licensed school serving school-age children,
25 plus 12 semester hours, or 18 quarter hours, acquired in
26 any department of any accredited college in

1 administration, public administration, social work
2 administration, business administration, organizational
3 science, accounting, or other courses relevant to
4 administering a program and its regulations.

5 (d) Completion of a training program accredited by the
6 American Montessori Society or Association Montessori
7 Internationale may be substituted for the courses directly
8 related to child care or child development required by this
9 Section. A person holding a Montessori preprimary credential
10 may serve as director to children through age 6. A person
11 holding a Montessori primary or elementary credential may
12 serve as director to children 6 years of age or older.

13 (225 ILCS 10/7.12 new)

14 Sec. 7.12. Standards for licensing of early childhood
15 teachers and school-age workers at day care centers.

16 (a) Early childhood teachers and school-age workers shall
17 be at least 19 years of age.

18 (b) Early childhood teachers and school-age workers shall
19 have a high school diploma or equivalency certificate.

20 (c) An early childhood teacher responsible for a group of
21 children that includes infants, toddler, or preschool age
22 children shall have achieved:

23 (1) 60 semester hours, or 90 quarter hours, of credits
24 from an accredited college or university with 6 semester
25 hours, or 9 quarter hours, in courses related directly to

1 child care and child development from birth to age 6;

2 (2) one year, or 1,560 clock hours, of child
3 development experience in a nursery school, kindergarten,
4 or licensed day care center and 30 semester hours, or 45
5 quarter hours, of credits from an accredited college or
6 university with 6 semester hours, or 9 quarter hours, in
7 courses related directly to child care and child
8 development from birth to age 6; or

9 (3) completion of credentialing programs approved by
10 the Department in accordance with Section 7.13.

11 (d) A school-age worker shall be at least 19 years of age
12 and at least 5 years older than the oldest child with whom the
13 school-age worker works.

14 (e) A newly employed school-age worker responsible for
15 only one group of school-age children shall have achieved:

16 (1) (A) 30 semester hours, or 45 quarter hours, of
17 credit from an accredited college or university with 6
18 semester hours, or 9 quarter hours, related to: school-age
19 child care, education, or child development, each defined
20 as inclusive of early childhood through adolescence, any
21 social or human science courses from any university
22 department, subject matter, or teaching methods courses,
23 physical education, recreation, camping, or other related
24 fields; (B) a bachelor's degree with a major focusing on a
25 human or social science or world history; or (C) a
26 secondary school education degree and subdiscipline with a

1 focus on human or social science, including, but not
2 limited to, social studies, family studies, human ecology,
3 world history, sociology of education, or Bachelor of Arts
4 degree-socio-psycho- or ethno-linguistics/reading;

5 (2) 1,560 clock hours of experience in a recreational
6 program, licensed day care center serving school-age
7 children, or a license-exempt school-age child care
8 program operated by a public or private school and 6
9 semester hours, or 9 quarter hours, of credit from an
10 accredited college or university related to school-age
11 child care, child development, adolescent or elementary
12 education, physical education, recreation, camping, or
13 other related fields; or

14 (3) a high school diploma or equivalency certificate,
15 plus 3,120 clock hours of experience in a recreational
16 program, kindergarten, or licensed day care center serving
17 school-age children or a license-exempt school-age child
18 care program operated by a public or private school.

19 (f) Completion of a training program accredited by the
20 American Montessori Society or Association Montessori
21 Internationale may be substituted for the courses directly
22 related to child care or child development required by this
23 Section. A person holding a Montessori preprimary credential
24 may supervise children through age 6. A person holding a
25 Montessori primary or elementary credential may supervise
26 children 6 years of age or older.

1 (g) A person who was deemed qualified as a child care
2 worker or school-age worker prior to January 1, 1985 continues
3 to be deemed qualified as an early childhood teacher or
4 school-age worker.

5 (h) Early childhood teachers and school-age workers are
6 responsible for the planning and supervision of a group of
7 children. Early childhood workers and school-age workers are
8 also responsible for supervising persons assigned to assist
9 their group who are not similarly qualified.

10 (225 ILCS 10/7.13 new)

11 Sec. 7.13. Early childhood teacher credentialing program.

12 (a) The Department shall use the following criteria to
13 review and approve early childhood teacher credentialing
14 programs:

15 (1) candidates must be at least 18 years of age;

16 (2) candidates must have at least a high school
17 diploma or equivalency certificate; and

18 (3) the credentialing program must require a minimum
19 of 640 clock hours of documented experience within the
20 past 5 years or 1200 clock hours working with children
21 ages zero to 12 in a public or private school operated
22 nursery school, kindergarten, licensed day care center, or
23 in a public or a private elementary school for a minimum of
24 one school year.

25 (b) The credentialing process must include:

1 (1) the child care director's recommendation in
2 support of the candidate;

3 (2) a review of the applicant's interaction with
4 children under direct supervision by an impartial person;

5 (3) a minimum of 120 clock hours of broad-based
6 training that has been completed successfully and has been
7 documented. One semester hour of college credits in early
8 childhood education is equivalent to 15 clock hours of
9 formal in-service training. This training may be completed
10 through:

11 (A) early childhood education courses at an
12 accredited college or university; or

13 (B) documented seminars and workshops pertaining
14 to the growth and education of children zero to 12
15 years of age at educational conferences of recognized
16 national or State associations, agencies, or
17 educational institutions; and

18 (4) a professional resource file or portfolio that
19 demonstrates the understanding of core professional
20 content areas, including, but not limited to, the
21 following:

22 (A) principles of child growth and development;

23 (B) planning a safe, healthy learning environment;

24 (C) advancing children's physical and intellectual
25 development;

26 (D) supporting children's social and emotional

1 development;
2 (E) establishing productive relationships among
3 family, school, and community;
4 (F) managing an effective program operation;
5 (G) maintaining a commitment to professionalism;
6 (H) observing and recording children's behavior;
7 and
8 (I) understanding the development of children's
9 language.