

12 Colo. Code Regs. § 2509-8-7.702.44

Section 12 CCR 2509-8-7.702.44 - Qualifications for Other Staff Members

A. Early Childhood Teacher

1. An early childhood teacher, assigned responsibility for a single group of children and working under the supervision of a director, must be at least eighteen (18) years of age and must meet at least one of the following qualifications:

a. A Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university with a major area of study in one of the following areas:

- 1) Early childhood education;
- 2) Elementary education;
- 3) Special education;
- 4) Family and child development; or,
- 5) Child psychology.

b. A Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university with a major area of study in any area other than those listed at Section 7.702.54, A, 1, A and additional two (2) three-semester hour early childhood education college courses with one course being either introduction to early childhood education or guidance strategies;

c. Current early childhood professional Credential Level III Version 2.0 as determined by the Colorado Department of Education;

d. A 2-year college degree, sixty (60) semester hours, in early childhood education from a regionally accredited college or university, which must include at least two (2) three-semester hour courses, one of which must be either introduction to early childhood education or guidance strategies; and at least six (6) months (910 hours) of satisfactory experience;

e. Completion of twelve (12) semester hours from a regionally accredited college or university, at either a two year, four year or graduate level, in each of the following subject or content areas in early childhood education and one of the three (3) semester hour courses must be either introduction to early childhood education or guidance strategies, plus nine (9) months (1,395 hours) of verified experience in the care and supervision of four (4) or more children less than six (6) years of age who are not related to the individual;

f. Completion of a vocational or occupational education sequence in child growth and development plus twelve (12) months (1,820 hours) of verified experience in the care and supervision of four (4) or more children less than six (6) years of age who are not related to the individual;

g. Current certification as a Child Development Associate (CDA) or other Department-approved credential;

h. Completion of a course of training approved by the Department that includes training and work experience with children in a child growth and development program plus twelve (12) months (1,820 hours) of verified experience in the care and supervision of four (4) or more children less than six (6) years of age who are not related to the individual; or,

i. Twenty-four (24) months (3,640 hours) of verified experience in the care and supervision of four (4) or more children less than six (6) years of age who are not related to the individual. Satisfactory experience includes being a licensee of a Colorado family child care home; a teacher's aide or teacher in a child care center, preschool, or elementary school, plus either:

1) A current Colorado Level I credential; or,

2) Two (2) three-semester hour early childhood education college courses from a regionally accredited college or university, at either a two year, four year or graduate level, in each of the following subject or content areas with one course being either introduction to early childhood education or guidance strategies.

2. All college course grades toward early childhood teacher qualifications must be "C" or better.

B. Kindergarten Teacher

1. Each teacher of a kindergarten class must have the same qualifications as a director for a large center (see Section 7.702.42), be state certified or licensed as an elementary teacher by the Colorado Department of Education, or have a four (4) year degree from a regionally accredited college or university in elementary or early childhood education.

2. A current early childhood professional Credential Level III Version 2.0 as determined by the Colorado Department of Education.

C. Assistant Early Childhood Teacher

An assistant early childhood teacher, assigned responsibility for a single group of children during times specified in 7.702.55, must meet one of the following qualifications:

1. Completion of one of the early childhood education courses in Section 7.702.42, A, with a course grade of "C" or better and twelve (12) months (1820 hours) verified experience in the care and supervision of four (4) or more children less than six (6) years of age, who are not related to the individual. Satisfactory experience includes being a licensee of a family child care home; a teacher's aide in a center, preschool or elementary school. Assistant early childhood teachers must be enrolled in and attending the second (2nd) early childhood education class which will be used as the basis for their qualification for the position of early childhood teacher;

2. Persons having completed two (2) of the early childhood education classes referenced in Section 7.702.42, A, with a course grade of "C" or better and no experience; or,

3. A current early childhood professional Credential Level I Version 1.0 or 2.0 as determined by the Colorado Department of Education.

D. Staff Aide

1. Staff aides must be at least sixteen (16) years of age and must work directly under the supervision of the director or an early childhood teacher.

2. Infant staff aides must be at least eighteen (18) years of age.

3. Staff aides, without supervision from an early childhood teacher or director, may supervise no more than two (2) preschool age children while assisting the children with diapering or toileting.

E. Volunteers (see also Section 7.702.33, I and J)

1. Volunteers who work more than fourteen (14) calendar days (112 hours) per calendar year who are used to meet staff to child ratio must be equally qualified as an early childhood teacher, assistant early childhood teacher or aide and have complete staff records as required in Section 7.702.92.

2. Volunteers must complete fingerprint based background checks and the State Department automated child abuse and neglect background check as required per section 7.701.32, and 7.701.33 of the General Rules for Child Care Facilities.

3. Volunteers must be supervised and given instruction as to the center's policies and procedures.

4. Volunteers between the ages of twelve (12) and sixteen (16) must have a written purpose developed by the center for volunteering and may not volunteer for more than two (2) hours per day.

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39 CR 01, January 10, 2016, effective 2/1/2016

39 CR 17, September 10, 2016, effective 10/1/2016

41 CR 17, September 10, 2018, effective 9/30/2018