



FLORIDA CHILD CARE DIRECTOR CREDENTIAL AND RENEWAL APPLICATION

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RESOURCE PAGE

A director credential is required for each licensed child care facility and Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) Program. The director credential combines education and experience in early childhood education and child care administration. The director credential has three levels: Level I, Level II, or Advanced. All three of these levels may be used to meet licensing compliance and participation in the Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) Program, pursuant Chapter 6A-6.040(1)(a), F.A.C.

Documenting Educational Requirements:

- High School Diploma – submit a copy of the diploma, or transcript from an accredited high school. A college transcript may be submitted, if it includes your high school graduation date. If your high school diploma was earned outside the U.S., it must be determined to be equivalent by an academic evaluation agency.
- GED – submit a copy of the GED certificate. A college transcript may be submitted if it includes your GED completion date.
- Part I Mandated Child Care Training and Staff Credential – Department of Children and Families’ (DCF) Child Care Training Transcript will be evaluated to ensure requirement is met.
- 8 Hours of Special Needs training – submit a copy of a training certificate, in-service training record form, letter from training provider, or DCF Child Care Training Transcript.
- Active Staff Credential – documented on your DCF Child Care Training Transcript. Staff Credential Verification Application (CF-FSP 5211) outlines the credential requirements and may be downloaded from the Child Care Website, select “Forms and Applications.”
- Overview of Child Care Management course – submit a copy of a course completion certificate or college transcript documenting course completion (not enrollment). Course must be on the Department of Children and Families approved list (see box below).
- Director/Administrator Credential/Certificate Issued by Another State Agency- submit documentation of the Director/Administrator Credential/Certificate issued by another state agency which authorizes you to be a director of a child care facility in that state.
- College Degree or Coursework – submit an unaltered copy of the transcript or unofficial transcript documenting date degree and/or coursework was completed. If your degree was earned outside the U.S., it must be determined to be equivalent by an academic evaluation agency.

Child Care Website – www.myflfamilies.com/childcare

The child care training website has useful information regarding the Director Credential, including a list of approved “Overview of Child Care Management” courses.

Select “Training & Credentialing” – then select “Director Credential”

Documenting Experience Requirements:

- Experience may be earned as a director, co-director, assistant director, or lead teacher in a Head Start program.
- To document experience, you may submit one of the following:
 - Letter on official letterhead from child care facility owner, board member, company CEO, representative of the organization, or supervisor stating position, title, and experience as a director, or
 - Copy of Child Care License listing applicant as director.
- “Year of Experience” is equivalent to a minimum of 1040 hours of paid and/or nonpaid documented work experience.

To determine if you need to renew your credential, please use the online “Credential Calculator” tool. To access the tool, go to www.myflfamilies.com/childcare - then select “Training & Credentialing” – then select “Director Credential.”



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This application is used for initial director credential verification and renewal, pursuant to s. 402.305(2), Florida Statutes.

Please complete all of the required sections and submit the application, with documentation, to:
Florida Department of Children and Families
Child Care Program Office – Credential Unit
1317 Winewood Blvd., Bldg. 6, Room 389A
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0700

Section 1 Candidate Information (All applicants must complete):				
Last Name	First Name	MI	DCF Student ID/Last 5 Digits of SSN*	
Mailing Address				
City	State	Zip Code	County	
Email Address				
Date of Birth	Home Telephone	Business Telephone		
ATTESTATION				
I hereby attest that all information pertaining to this application is true, correct, and complete. I understand if any of the information provided is found to be false, the verification will be rescinded.				
Signature of Applicant			Date of Application	

*The department is requesting the last 5 digits of your social security number, but you are not required to provide it under the law. However, providing the last 5 digits of your social security number will assist the department in processing your application quickly and determining your eligibility faster and more accurately. Social security numbers are used by the department for identity verification only. You may use your Department of Children and Families Student ID found on your Child Care Training Transcript.

- Go To Page 1** To review information regarding the director credential and additional resources available.
- Go To Page 3** If you are submitting your application for your **initial** director credential.
- Go To Page 5** If you are **renewing** your director credential.

Incomplete applications will only be retained for 12 months from the date of receipt.

INITIAL DIRECTOR CREDENTIAL

Provide all of the documentation to support **Section 2:**

Section 2 Core Requirements:

- Documentation must be provided to show completion of **all** requirements below.
- Child Care Training Transcript will be used to document Part I Child Care Training and Staff Credential.

If your high school diploma was earned outside the U.S., it must be translated by someone who is a member of the American Translators Association, an approved credential evaluation agency approved by the Bureau of Educators Certification, or an accredited college/university to be equivalent to a U.S. High School Diploma.

- _____ High School Diploma or G.E.D.
- _____ 30 Hour Part I Department of Children and Families' Introductory Child Care Training (**SCHOOL-AGE APPLICANTS** may substitute training for Child Growth and Development and Behavioral Observation and Screening pursuant to Section 4.5 of the School-Age Child Care Licensing Handbook.)
- _____ At least eight hours of in-service training regarding children with disabilities. The Department of Children and Families' Special Needs Appropriate Practice course will meet this requirement.
- _____ Active Staff Credential Verification (CF-FSP 5211), excluding Employment History Recognition Exemption.

Provide all of the documentation to support **one** of the following (Section 3, 4, or 5):

Section 3 Level I Requirements:

- Completion of an approved "Overview of Child Care Management" course for vocational credit, CEUs, or college credit
- OR**
- A Director/Administrator Credential/Certificate that has been issued by another state agency which authorizes that individual to be a director of a child care facility in that state, subject to approval by the Department of Children and Families. Third party issuances of credentials/certificates will not be accepted.

Name of Approved Overview of Child Care Management Training Provider	Issue Date
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List of approved programs can be found at www.myflfamilies.com/childcare - select "Training & Credentialing" and then "Director Credential."

Section 4 Level II Requirements:

- Completion of an approved "Overview of Child Care Management" course offered through accredited vocational-technical schools, community colleges, colleges and universities.
- OR**
- A Director/Administrator Credential/Certificate that has been issued by another state agency which authorizes that individual to be a director of a child care facility in that state, subject to approval by the Department of Children and Families. Third party issuances of credentials/certificates will not be accepted.
- AND**
- Minimum of one year experience as an on-site child care director in a licensed child care facility or legally exempt from licensure child care facility.

Name of Approved Overview of Child Care Management Training Provider	Issue Date
List of approved programs can be found at www.myflfamilies.com/childcare - select "Training & Credentialing" and then "Director Credential."	

Section 5 Advanced Level Requirements:

- Minimum of two years experience as an on-site child care director in a licensed child care facility or legally exempt from licensure child care facility.

AND

- Complete **one** of the following:
 - Completion of an approved "Overview of Child Care Management" course offered through accredited vocational-technical schools, community colleges, colleges and universities, or
 - Course may be substituted by successfully completing a three credit college level course in Child Care Administration, Business Administration, or Education Administration, if all of the other requirements are met, or
 - A Director/Administrator Credential/Certificate that has been issued by another state agency which authorizes that individual to be a director of a child care facility in that state, subject to approval by the Department of Children and Families. Third party issuances of credentials/certificates will not be accepted.

AND

- Complete **one** of the following:
 - Associate's degree or higher, or
 - At least two three college credit courses in one of the following curriculum areas:
 - Child Care and Education Organizational Leadership
 - Child Care and Education Financial and Legal Issues
 - Child Care and Education Programming

If your degree was earned outside the U.S., it must be evaluated by an approved credential evaluation agency approved by the Bureau of Educators Certification or an accredited college/university to be equivalent to a U.S. Degree.

Name of Approved Overview of Child Care Management Training Provider	Issue Date
List of approved programs can be found at www.myflfamilies.com/childcare - select "Training & Credentialing" and then "Director Credential."	

AND

Degree Earned – Area of Study	Name of Institution	Graduation Date
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OR

1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____

Name of Two Three Credit Courses	Name of Institution	Course Completion Date
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RENEWAL DIRECTOR CREDENTIAL

Provide documentation verifying all three requirements have been met (Section 6, 7, and 8):

Section 6 Active Staff Credential (No Documentation Required):

- Staff Credential Verifications must be active at the time of renewal.
- Child Care Training Transcript will be used to verify an active staff credential.

Section 7 Educational Requirement:

- Training must be completed within last five years. In-service hours, non-vocational class hours, or coursework previously submitted to earn an initial/renewal credential will **not** be accepted.
- Training must be under any of the following topic areas:
 - Overview of Child Care Management (cannot be the same course used for initial credential)
 - Child Care and Education Leadership and Management
 - Child Care and Education Financial and Legal Issues
 - Child Care and Education Programming
 - Coursework completed to renew a State of Florida Teaching Certificate
- Training must be completed through **one** of the following:

_____ 4.5 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) – training certificates must clearly list the number of CEUs awarded and the date earned.

_____ Three college credit hours from an accredited or U.S. Department of Education recognized institution – copy of college transcript documenting the semester and year the college credits were earned. If the subject area and age range is not clear on the transcript, please include a course description provided by the university or college in which you attended the training.

_____ Forty-five clock hours completed at a Florida Career Education Center (public vocational or technical school), accredited Florida Community Colleges, Colleges, Universities or an institution licensed by the Florida Commission for Independent Education.

_____ Forty-five Department of Education district approved teacher in-service points.

_____ Any combination of the above training hours. (For example: 1 college credit +1.5 CEUs+15 vocational hours).

Section 8 Professional Contribution Requirement:

- **One** of the following professional contribution activities must be completed within last five years:

_____ Make a presentation in the field of early childhood or school-age education at a conference, association meeting, coalition meeting, or teach courses through an educational institution such as a college or career-technical center. (Documentation must include a copy of the presentation, agenda, syllabus **AND** sign-in sheet, class roster or conference brochure.)

_____ Serve as an officer, committee member, consultant, or mentor in a professional organization related to the field of early childhood or school-age education. (Documentation must include proof of role in organization, including length of time involved and duties. Letter should be from the organization, client, or person being mentored. Membership alone does not satisfy this requirement.)

_____ Publish an article related to the field of early childhood or school-age education in a professional journal, professional newsletter, newspaper article, letter to the newspaper editor, or book. (Documentation must include a copy of the published article and proof of publication such as the journal, newsletter, etc. Blog type activities do not satisfy this requirement.)

_____ Participate in an educational research project related to early childhood or school-age education. (Documentation must include proof participation was at least three months in the research project.)

_____ Complete initial or renewal of a Florida-recognized accreditation program. (Documentation must include proof of accreditation.) For a list of approved accreditation organizations, visit www.myflfamilies.com/childcare - select "Gold Seal Quality Care Program."

_____ Serve as a validator or advisor for a Florida-recognized accreditation program, as a National Child Development Associate (CDA) advisor, or as a school-age certification representative for the Florida Child Care Professional Credential School-Age Program. (Documentation must include completion of one validation or accreditation visit.)

_____ Serve as an editor or reviewer for a professional journal or book. (Documentation must include proof of completion of review such as letter from publisher.)

_____ Participate in a rule development workshop for a governmental agency. (Documentation must include proof of active participation at the rule workshop from agency holding workshop and include information shared. Active participation requires providing information for change, rationale for change, providing written suggestions, or sharing information or opinions on proposed rule.)