REQUIREMENTS

Core of Knowledge (COK) Training:

Participants must complete training in six key topics:

1. Child Development
2. Curriculum
3. Professionalism
4. Community
5. Special Needs
6. Health, Safety, and Nutrition

Training may be taken from a college, university, or an OCC-approved trainer.

Experience:

Participants must work directly with children in an approved setting for a number of years according to credential level.

Professional Activity Units (PAUs):

Participants must do activities related to the child care profession, such as professional association membership, working with state or national accreditation organizations, peer mentoring, or developing newsletters.

STAFF CREDENTIAL LEVELS

1 State licensing requirements.

2
- 45 clock hours of core of knowledge training
- 1 PAU

3
- 90 clock hours of COK training
- 1 year of experience or 1 year of college
- 2 PAUs

4
- 135 clock hours of COK training
- 2 years of experience
- 3 PAUs

4+
- Level 4 requirements, and
- NAFCC accreditation or 15 college credit hours of approved coursework for option 2 or 3.

5
- Associate's Degree with 15 semester hours of approved coursework for option 2 or 3
- 2 years experience
- 4 PAUs

6
- Bachelor's Degree or higher in an approved major for option 2 or 3
- 2 years experience
- 5 PAUs

ADMINISTRATOR CREDENTIAL LEVELS

1
- 240 clock hours COK training
- 2 years experience
- 4 PAUs.

2
- 240 clock hours COK training
- National Administrator's Credential
- 30 semester hours approved college coursework
- 2 years experience
- 5 PAUs

3
- Associate's Degree with 15 semester hours of approved coursework related to business management, administration, and
- At least 1 college course in Child Development, Curriculum, or Administration of Child Care Programs

4
- Bachelor's Degree or higher in business administration, public administration and management, or public school administration
- Completion of at least 1 college course for credit in Child Development, Curriculum, or Administration of Child Care Programs
- Completion of 45 clock hours of training in mentoring and coaching.