

**TEACHERS are required to have different qualifications in different settings.**

The minimum **educational qualifications** for each setting are listed below.

Some settings also require other qualifications as well. See “Notes” and check with the agency that sets to requirements to see these additional requirements. Requirements may change and certain employers may require more than the minimum qualifications.

<b>Setting and Agency</b>	<b>Age of Children</b>	<b>Current minimum educational requirements</b>	<b>Notes (Additional &amp; future requirements)</b>
Licensed Child Day Care Centers <sup>1</sup> (DPH)	Infants to school age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>CDA</u></li> </ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>12 credits</u> in early childhood education or child development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20 years old</li> <li>• 1080 hours documented experience</li> </ul>
School Readiness funded programs <sup>2</sup> (SDE)	3 & 4-year olds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>CDA and 12 credits</u> in early childhood education</li> </ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Associates or bachelor’s degree <b>and</b> <u>12 credits</u> in early childhood education or child development</li> </ul>	<b>As of 2015:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bachelor’s degree</li> </ul>
Department of Social Service Child Care Centers (DSS)	Infants to school age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>CDA and 12 credits</u> in ECE</li> </ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Associates or Bachelor’s degree and <u>12 credits</u> in or child development</li> </ul>	
Early Head Start (Federal Head Start Bureau)	Infants and toddlers	<b>As of September 30, 2010:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>CDA</u> or equivalent</li> </ul>	<b>As of September 30, 2012:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>CDA</u> or equivalent and “Training with a focus on infant and toddler development”</li> </ul>
Head Start Program (Federal Head Start Bureau)	3 & 4-year olds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>CDA</u> with preschool endorsement for center-based setting</li> </ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A state awarded credential for preschool teachers that</li> </ul>	<b>As of October 1, 2011:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Associates degree in ECE<sup>3</sup></li> </ul> <b>As of September 30, 2013:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Associates or Bachelor’s degree in ECE<sup>4</sup></li> </ul>

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<sup>1</sup> Child day care centers are licensed by the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH). These are the requirements for the “head teacher” in a child day care center. See the DPH website for more information ([http://www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3141&Q=387158&dphNav\\_GID=1823](http://www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3141&Q=387158&dphNav_GID=1823)) and page 10 ([http://ct.gov/dph/lib/dph/daycare/pdf/Statutes\\_and\\_Regulations\\_Centers.pdf](http://ct.gov/dph/lib/dph/daycare/pdf/Statutes_and_Regulations_Centers.pdf))

<sup>2</sup> School Readiness is a program administered and funded by the Connecticut Department of Education. Programs may be in public schools or in community child care centers. See the SDE website for more information

<sup>3</sup> Or an associates degree and “course work equivalent to major relating to ECE with experience teaching preschool children.”

<b>Setting and Agency</b>	<b>Age of Children</b>	<b>Current minimum educational requirements</b>	<b>Notes (Additional &amp; future requirements)</b>
		exceeds <u>CDA</u> requirements OR • 2013 requirements	
NAEYC Accredited Program ( <i>NAEYC</i> )	Infants & toddlers, 3 and 4- year olds	• 75% of teachers <u>CDA</u> or equivalent OR Working on Associates or higher in ECE OR Have a degree plus experience plus relevant training	
Private Schools	Infants through high school	Requirements are set by the school	
Public Schools ( <i>SDE</i> )	3-year olds through high school	• Bachelor's Degree <b>and</b> • State teacher certification <sup>5</sup>	
Licensed Family Child Care Homes (DPH)	Birth through school age	<i>None</i>	• At least 20 years old • Completion of approved 6-hour first aid course

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<sup>4</sup> By 2013 50% of teachers required to have a bachelor's degree and all others have an associate degree. The degrees must be in early childhood or you must have "course work equivalent to major relating to ECE with experience teaching preschool children."

<sup>5</sup> Currently in Connecticut the State Department of Education issues 2 early childhood endorsements for teacher certification: 1) Nursery to Grade 3 and 2) Birth to Kindergarten.