



RATED LICENSE FOR CHILD CARE CENTERS THAT PROVIDE CARE ONLY TO PRESCHOOL CHILDREN



PROGRAM REQUIREMENT	EDUCATION REQUIREMENT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meets minimum licensing requirements <p style="text-align: center;">1 pt.</p>	<p>All staff must meet minimum licensing requirements which include:</p> <p><u>On-Site Child Care Administrator:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> must be 21 years old and have a high school diploma or its equivalent; AND have or be working towards a Level I NCECAC⁹ or its equivalent; OR have 2 years of full-time early childhood work experience; OR have an associate, undergraduate or graduate degree with at least 12 semester credit hours in ECE/CD¹, or a CDA or completion of a community college early childhood education certificate/diploma; OR 1 year of full-time early childhood work experience and the NCECC⁶; AND have completed or be enrolled in 2 semester credit hours of early childhood education administration coursework <p><u>Note:</u> All administrators must begin work towards a NCECAC⁹ or its equivalent within 6 months of assuming the duties of administrator and must complete a NCECAC⁹ or its equivalent within 2 years</p> <p><u>Centers with a licensed capacity of 200 or more must also have a second on-site child care administrator who meets minimum requirements and has a Level I NCECAC⁹ or its equivalent</u></p> <p><u>Lead Teacher:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> must be 18 years old and have a high school diploma or its equivalent; AND have or be working towards the NCECC⁶, or its equivalent or at least a Level 1 certification on the ECE scale; OR have 1 year of child care experience working in a center or 2 years experience as a licensed family child care home operator; OR have completed a 2-year high school child care program; OR have 20 additional hours of training in child development within the first 6 months of employment <p><u>Note:</u> All lead teachers must begin work towards the NCECC⁶ or its equivalent within 6 months of assuming the duties of lead teacher and must complete the NCECC⁶ or its equivalent within 18 months</p> <p><u>Teacher (counted in staff/child ratio):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> must be 18 years old and have a high school diploma or its equivalent; AND have 1 year of child care experience working in a center or 2 years experience as a licensed family child care home operator; OR have completed a 2-year high school child care program; OR have 20 additional hours of training in child development within the first 6 months of employment <p style="text-align: center;">1 pt.</p>

¹ECE/CD=Early Childhood Education/Child Development; ²ECERS-R=Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale, Revised; ³ITERS-R=Infant/Toddler Environmental Rating Scale, Revised; ⁴FCCERS-R=Family Child Care Environmental Rating Scale, Revised; ⁵SACERS=School-Age Care Environmental Rating Scale; ⁶NCECC=North Carolina Early Childhood Credential; ⁷NCFCCC=North Carolina Family Child Care Credential; ⁸NCSACC=North Carolina School-Age Care Credential; ⁹NCECAC=North Carolina Early Childhood Administrator Credential; ¹⁰BSAC=Basic School-Age Care training (Note: Equivalency may be given for BSAC training through a proposal being submitted to the DCDEE Workforce Education/In-Service Training Unit for review. The training must have prior approval before it can be counted as a BSAC equivalent); ¹¹ERS=Environmental Rating Scales; ¹²NC Early Educator Certification; ¹³Early Care and Education Scale; ¹⁴School-Age Scale
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meets minimum licensing requirements; • Meets all enhanced standards <u>except either</u> enhanced ratios OR enhanced space <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 20px;">2 pts.</p>	<p>All staff must meet the minimum requirements to obtain at least 1 point in education standards. The following requirements shall also be met for 2 points:</p> <p><u>On-Site Child Care Administrator:</u> (1) shall have a Level I NCECAC⁹ or its equivalent; AND (2) 2 years of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience or 1 year experience in child care administration</p> <p><u>Lead Teacher:</u> 75% of the Lead Teachers shall have: (1) the NCECC⁶, its equivalent or a Level 1 or higher certification¹² on the ECE scale¹³; AND (2) completed or be enrolled in 3 semester hours in ECE/CD¹ (not including NCECC⁶ coursework)</p> <p><u>Teacher (counted in staff/child ratio):</u> 50% of the Teachers shall have: (1) 1 year of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; OR (2) be enrolled in 3 semester hours in ECE/CD¹; OR (3) any combination of Subparagraph (1) and (2) of this Paragraph</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 20px;">2 pts.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meets minimum licensing requirements; • Meets all enhanced standards <u>except either</u> enhanced ratios OR enhanced space AND • ERS¹¹ = lowest classroom score at least 4.0 <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 20px;">3 pts.</p>	<p>All staff must meet the minimum requirements to obtain at least 1 point in education standards. The following requirements shall also be met for 3 points:</p> <p><u>On-Site Child Care Administrator:</u> (1) shall have a Level I NCECAC⁹ or its equivalent; AND (2) completed 6 semester hours in ECE/CD¹ (not including NCECAC⁹ coursework); AND EITHER (A) 2 years of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; OR (B) 1 year of experience in child care administration</p> <p><u>Lead Teacher:</u> All Lead Teachers shall have the NCECC⁶, its equivalent or a Level 1 or higher certification¹² on the ECE scale¹³; AND EITHER (1) 75% of the Lead Teachers shall have: (A) completed 3 semester hours in ECE/CD¹ and completed or be enrolled in 3 additional semester hours in ECE/CD¹ (not including NCECC⁶ coursework); OR (B) 1 year of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; OR (C) a Level 2 or higher certification¹² on the ECE scale¹³, OR (D) any combination of Parts (A) through (C) of this Subparagraph; OR (2) 50% of the Lead Teachers shall have a Level 2 or higher certification¹² on the ECE scale¹³</p> <p><u>Teacher (counted in staff/child ratio):</u> 50% of the Teachers shall have: (1) completed 3 semester hours in ECE/CD¹; OR (2) 2 years of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; OR (3) any combination of Subparagraph (1) and (2) of this Paragraph</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 20px;">3 pts.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meets minimum licensing requirements; • Meets all enhanced standards <u>except</u> enhanced space <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ERS¹¹ = avg. 4.5 with no one classroom score lower than 4.0 <p style="text-align: center;">4 pts.</p>	<p>All staff must meet the minimum requirements to obtain at least 1 point in education standards. The following requirements shall also be met for 4 points:</p> <p><u>On-Site Child Care Administrator:</u></p> <p>(1) shall have a Level I NCECAC⁹ or its equivalent; AND EITHER</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(A) completed 18 semester hours in ECE/CD¹ (not including NCECAC⁹ coursework) and 1 year of experience in child care administration; OR</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(B) completed 6 semester hours in ECE/CD¹ (not including NCECAC⁹ coursework) and 10 years of experience in child care administration</p> <p><u>Lead Teacher:</u></p> <p>All Lead Teachers shall have the NCECC⁶, its equivalent or a Level 1 or higher certification¹² on the ECE scale¹³; AND EITHER</p> <p>(1) 75% of the Lead Teachers shall have:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(A) completed 6 semester hours in ECE/CD¹ and completed or be enrolled in 3 additional semester hours in ECE/CD¹ (not including NCECC⁶ coursework); OR</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(B) completed 3 semester hours in ECE/CD¹ and have 3 years of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; OR</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(C) 5 years of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; OR</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(D) any combination of Parts (A) through (C) of this Subparagraph; OR</p> <p>(2) 50% of the Lead Teachers shall have a Level 3 or higher certification¹² on the ECE scale¹³</p> <p><u>Teacher (counted in staff/child ratio):</u></p> <p>50% of the Teachers shall have the NCECC⁶, its equivalent or a Level 1 or higher certification¹² on the ECE scale¹³</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4 pts.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meets minimum licensing requirements; • Meets all enhanced standards <u>except</u> enhanced space <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ERS¹¹ = avg. 4.75 classroom score with no one classroom score lower than 4.0 <p style="text-align: center;">5 pts.</p>	<p>All staff must meet the minimum requirements to obtain at least 1 point in education standards. The following requirements shall also be met for 5 points:</p> <p><u>On-Site Child Care Administrator:</u></p> <p>(1) shall have a Level II NCECAC⁹ or its equivalent; AND</p> <p>(2) 2 years of full-time verifiable early childhood work</p> <p><u>Lead Teacher:</u></p> <p>All Lead Teachers shall have the NCECC⁶, its equivalent or a Level 1 or higher certification¹² on the ECE scale¹³; AND</p> <p>75% of the Lead Teachers shall have:</p> <p>(1) completed 9 semester hours in ECE/CD¹ (not including NCECC⁶ coursework); and have completed or be enrolled in 3 additional semester hours in ECE/CD¹; and have 1 year of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; OR</p> <p>(2) a Level 4 or higher certification¹² on the ECE scale¹³ and have 1 year of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; OR</p> <p>(3) any combination of Subparagraph (1) and (2) of this Paragraph</p> <p><u>Teacher (counted in staff/child ratio):</u></p> <p>50% of the Teachers shall have:</p> <p>(1) the NCECC⁶, its equivalent or a Level 1 or higher certification¹² on the ECE scale¹³ and 3 additional semester hours in ECE/CD¹ (not including NCECC⁶ coursework); OR</p> <p>(2) a Level 2 or higher certification¹² on the ECE scale¹³; OR</p> <p>(3) any combination of Subparagraph (1) and (2) of this Paragraph</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5 pts.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meets minimum licensing requirements; • Meets all enhanced standards AND • ERS¹¹ = avg. 5.0 with no one classroom score lower than 4.0 <p style="text-align: center;">6 pts.</p>	<p>All staff must meet the minimum requirements to obtain at least 1 point in education standards. The following requirements shall also be met for 6 points:</p> <p><u>On-Site Child Care Administrator:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) shall have a Level II NCECAC⁹ or its equivalent; AND (2) completed 18 semester hours in ECE/CD¹ (not including NCECAC⁹ coursework or hours earned in the A.A.S. degree); AND EITHER <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (A) 3 years of full-time verifiable work experience in an early childhood center teaching young children; OR (B) 3 years of administrative experience; OR (C) 3 years of a combination of both <p><u>Lead Teacher:</u></p> <p>All Lead Teachers shall have the NCECC⁶, its equivalent or a Level 1 or higher certification¹² on the ECE scale¹³; AND 50% of the Lead Teachers shall have either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) an AAS degree in ECE/CD¹ or an AAS degree in any major with 12 semester hours in ECE/CD¹ and 1 year of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; OR (2) completed 60 semester hours towards a BA/BS degree program with at least 12 semester hours in early childhood education and 1 year of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; OR (3) a Level 6 or higher certification¹² on the ECE scale¹³ and 1 year of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; OR (4) any combination of Subparagraph (1) through (3) of this Paragraph <p><u>Teacher (counted in staff/child ratio):</u></p> <p>50% of the Teachers shall have the NCECC⁶, its equivalent or a Level 1 or higher certification¹² on the ECE scale¹³; AND EITHER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) completed 3 additional semester hours in ECE/CD¹ (not including NCECC⁶ coursework) and 1 year of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; OR (2) a Level 2 or higher certification¹² on the ECE scale¹³ and 1 year of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; OR (3) any combination of Subparagraph (1) and (2) of this Paragraph <p style="text-align: center;">6pts.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meets minimum licensing requirements; • Meets all enhanced standards <u>and</u> enhanced ratios minus 1 AND • ERS¹¹ = lowest classroom score at least 5.0 <p style="text-align: center;">7 pts.</p>	<p>All staff must meet the minimum requirements to obtain at least 1 point in education standards. The following requirements shall also be met for 7 points:</p> <p><u>On-Site Child Care Administrator:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) shall have a Level III NCECAC⁹ or its equivalent; AND (2) Either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (A) 4 years of full-time verifiable work experience in an early childhood center teaching young children; OR (B) 4 years of administrative experience; OR (C) 4 years of a combination of both <p><u>Lead Teacher:</u></p> <p>All Lead Teachers shall have the NCECC⁶, its equivalent or a Level 1 or higher certification¹² on the ECE scale¹³; AND 75% of the Lead Teachers shall have either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) an AAS degree in ECE/CD¹ or an AAS degree in any major with 12 semester hours in ECE/CD¹ and 2 years of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; OR (2) a Level 6 or higher certification¹² on the ECE scale¹³ and 2 years of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; OR (3) any combination of Subparagraph (1) and (2) of this Paragraph <p><u>Teacher (counted in staff/child ratio):</u></p> <p>50% of the Teachers shall have the NCECC⁶, its equivalent or a Level 1 or higher certification¹² on the ECE scale¹³; AND EITHER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) completed 6 additional semester hours in ECE/CD¹ (not including NCECC⁶ coursework) and 2 years of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; OR (2) a Level 3 or higher certification¹² on the ECE scale¹³ and 2 years of full-time verifiable early childhood work experience; OR (3) any combination of Subparagraph (1) and (2) of this Paragraph <p style="text-align: center;">7 pts.</p>

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Composite Scoring for Star Rating – In each column determine the number of points attained based upon the highest standards met. Total the points from each column to determine the composite score.

Total Number of Points

4 through 6

7 through 9

10 through 12

13 through 15

Star Rating

Two Stars

Three Stars

Four Stars

Five Stars

**Note: You may choose to earn one quality point towards the total points earned on your rated license assessment. See Child Care Rule .2823 for a list of educational and programmatic options.*

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