

## ECE Credentials Across Canada

This list is meant to serve as a guide. For more information, visit the Childcare Resource and Research Unit website ([www.childcarecanada.org](http://www.childcarecanada.org)) or contact your local ELCC Association for current certification requirements in your community. Additional training, certifications, specializations and/or registration may be required and/or recognized.

| Province/Territory | Educator Titles       | Level of Study/Experience  | Notes   |
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| Newfoundland       | Trainee Certification | Child Care Services certification requires completion of an orientation course of 30–60 hours, depending on the age group with which the staff will be working | Government of NL Certification<br><br>Adapted from: <a href="https://www.gov.nl.ca/eecd/files/family_childcare_pdf_policy_hcertification.pdf">https://www.gov.nl.ca/eecd/files/family_childcare_pdf_policy_hcertification.pdf</a> |
|                    | Level One             | Minimum of a one year certificate in Early Childhood Education from a postsecondary institution. Staff are certified to work with particular age groups        | Visit the Association of Early Childhood Educators NF for more information: <a href="http://www.aecenl.ca/">http://www.aecenl.ca/</a>   |
|                    | Level Two             | Minimum of a two year diploma in Early Childhood Education. Staff are certified to work with particular age groups   |   |
|                    | Level Three           | Certification requires Level Two certification plus an ECE-specific or an ECE-related post-diploma specialization  |   |
|                    | Level Four            | Certification requires an ECE-specific university  |   |

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|                      |               | degree or a university degree plus an ECE diploma   |   |
| Prince Edward Island | ECE Level I   | An applicant for an Early Childhood Educator Level I certificate shall have successfully completed a 30 hour course, approved by the Board, in each of the following subject areas: (a) child growth and development; (b) child guidance; (c) early childhood pedagogy. | Adapted from: <a href="https://www.childcarecanada.org/sites/default/files/ECEC2016-PE.pdf">https://www.childcarecanada.org/sites/default/files/ECEC2016-PE.pdf</a> |
|                      | ECE Level II  | An applicant for an Early Childhood Educator Level II certificate shall have successfully completed a one year certificate program in early childhood care and education, approved by the Board   | Visit the Early Childhood Development Association of PEI for more information: <a href="https://www.ecdaofpei.ca/">https://www.ecdaofpei.ca/</a>                    |
|                      | ECE Level III | An applicant for an Early Childhood Educator Level III certificate shall have successfully completed a two year diploma program, or a degree program, in early childhood care and education, approved by the Board.   |   |
| Nova Scotia          | Entry Level   | Completion of orientation for staff working in licensed child care facilities   | Adapted from: <a href="https://www.childcarecanada.org/sites/default/files/ECEC2016-NS.pdf">https://www.childcarecanada.org/sites/default/files/ECEC2016-NS.pdf</a> |
|                      | Level 1       | Completion of orientation for child care staff as well  | Visit the Nova Scotia   |

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|               |                     | as completion of post-secondary course work in the following three subject areas: child development, behaviour guidance and curriculum and programming for young children. These staff must also complete two guided workplace experiences, consisting of work experience in a licensed child care facility, advised by a supervisor from a training institute, and supported by an early childhood contact staff in the workplace. | Child Care Staff Classification Services for more information: <a href="https://www.ednet.ns.ca/earlyyears/pd/ClassificationforStaff.shtm">https://www.ednet.ns.ca/earlyyears/pd/ClassificationforStaff.shtm</a> ! |
|               | Level 2             | Completion of an approved college program in early childhood education  |  |
|               | Level 3             | Completion of a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or completion of Level 2 requirements and a bachelor's degree  |  |
|               | School age Approval | Completion of orientation training and a post-secondary credential that qualifies a person to plan and deliver developmentally appropriate programming for school-age children  |  |
| New Brunswick |                     | The centre director, their designate, or one in four staff is required to have a one year community college ECE certificate or  | Adpated from: <a href="https://www.childcarecanada.org/sites/default/files/ECEC2016-NB.pdf">https://www.childcarecanada.org/sites/default/files/ECEC2016-NB.pdf</a>  |

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|        |  | <p>equivalent.</p> <p>Staff must be at least 16 years old; 16 to 19-year-olds are required to be supervised by a primary staff member who must be at least 19 years of age.</p> <p>Out-of-province early childhood credentials that are accepted by other provinces in Atlantic Canada, or with a certificate level or higher from a Community College that is a member of the Association of Community Colleges of Canada, are recognized as having equivalent qualifications.</p> <p>New Brunswick also accepts a Bachelor of Education (either Primary or Elementary) as a training credential in child care from New Brunswick universities.</p> <p>There are no qualification requirements for staff working in stand-alone school-age programs.</p> | <p>Visit the Early Childhood Care &amp; Education New Brunswick for more information:<br/> <a href="https://eccenb-sepenb.ca/en/">https://eccenb-sepenb.ca/en/</a></p>          |
| Quebec |  | <p>Centre staff qualifications: At least two child care staff members out of three (2/3) in each centre must be qualified and be present each day with the children while child care is being provided.</p>   | <p>Adatped from:<br/> <a href="https://www.childcarecanada.org/sites/default/files/ECEC2016-QC.pdf">https://www.childcarecanada.org/sites/default/files/ECEC2016-QC.pdf</a></p> |

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|         |   | <p>There is no training requirement for centre directors.</p> <p>“Qualified” is defined as holding a college diploma in early childhood education or any other equivalent training recognized by the Minister (such as a one-year Attestation d’études collégiales combined with three years experience).</p> <p>There are no educational requirements for staff working in school-age child care programs. However, a school board may require the lead staff to have an early childhood education diploma.</p> |   |
| Ontario | <p>Registered Early Childhood Educator (RECE)</p> <p>Early Childhood Assistant (ECA)</p> <p>Child Care Worker</p> | <p>2 year College program or 4 year University program</p> <p>1 year College program</p> <p>Hired at the discretion of centre/program director based on experience</p> <p>One staff person with each group of children must either be a member in good standing with the College of Early Childhood Educators (i.e. listed as such on the College of Early</p>   | <p>ECEs are required to register with the College of Early Childhood Educators.</p> <p>English: <a href="https://www.college-ec.ca/en">https://www.college-ec.ca/en</a></p> <p>French: <a href="https://www.college-ec.ca/fr">https://www.college-ec.ca/fr</a></p> <p>More information: <a href="https://www.childcarecanada.org/sites/default/files/ECEC2016-ON.pdf">https://www.childcarecanada.org/sites/default/files/ECEC2016-ON.pdf</a></p> |

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|          |                                    | Childhood Educators' public register) or otherwise be approved by a Ministry of Education director.   |   |
| Manitoba | Child Care Assistant               | Employed in a child care centre but not eligible on the basis of educational requirements for classification at the ECE II or III level. All CCAs must have 40-hours of approved early childhood training within their first year of employment.  | Adapted from: <a href="https://www.childcarecanada.org/sites/default/files/ECEC2016-MB.pdf">https://www.childcarecanada.org/sites/default/files/ECEC2016-MB.pdf</a> |
|          | Early Childhood Educator (ECE) II  | An individual who has successfully completed one of the following: 1) a two year Early Childhood Education diploma program approved by the Child Care Education Program Approval Committee; or 2) an assessment program offered by the ELCC Program; or 3) a two year diploma program in Early Childhood Education from a recognized college outside Manitoba | Visit the Manitoba Child Care Association for more information: <a href="http://mccahouse.org/">http://mccahouse.org/</a>   |
|          | Early Childhood Educator (ECE) III | An individual with one of the following: 1) ECE II classification and successful completion of a specialization or degree program recognized by the Child Care Education Program Approval Committee; or 2) Bachelor of Arts from the University of  |   |

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|              |                   | Winnipeg, Major in Developmental Studies: Stream C–Child Development and Child Care   |   |
| Saskatchewan | ECE Level         | Completion of an ECE orientation from an approved accredited post-secondary institution, or completion of nine credit units (three courses) that are directly related to early childhood – one course from each of three areas: child development, programming, and relationships | Adapted from: <a href="https://www.childcarecanada.org/sites/default/files/ECEC2016-SK.pdf">https://www.childcarecanada.org/sites/default/files/ECEC2016-SK.pdf</a><br><br>Visit the Saskatchewan Early Childhood Association for more information: <a href="http://seca-sk.ca/">http://seca-sk.ca/</a> |
|              | ECE Level         | Completion of a one year ECE certificate from an approved, accredited post-secondary institution or an equivalent combination of post-secondary coursework.   |   |
|              | ECE Level         | Completion of a two year ECE diploma from an approved, accredited post-secondary institution or an equivalent combination of post-secondary coursework. Only courses completed through an approved, accredited post-secondary institution are considered for ECE certification.   |   |
| Alberta      | Child Development | The completion of the   | Adapted from:   |

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|  | <p>Assistant certificate (formerly Level 1)</p>                    | <p>Child Care Orientation Course (Alberta government-sponsored course); or completion of specific courses in Alberta high schools; or completion of a 45 hour (three credit) college/university-level course related to child development; or completion of the Step Ahead Family Day Home Training or Family Child Care Training Program through an approved Alberta Family Day Home Agency registered with the Alberta Family Child Care Association</p> | <p><a href="https://www.childcarecanada.org/sites/default/files/ECEC2016-AB.pdf">https://www.childcarecanada.org/sites/default/files/ECEC2016-AB.pdf</a></p> <p>Visit the Association of Early Childhood Educators of Alberta for more information: <a href="https://aecea.ca/">https://aecea.ca/</a></p> |
|  | <p>Child Development Worker certificate (formerly Level 2)</p>     | <p>Completion of a one year early learning and child care certificate program offered by an Alberta public college or university or completion of an equivalent level of training (refer to Educational Equivalencies for Alberta Child Care Staff Certification for details).</p>   |   |
|  | <p>Child Development Supervisor certificate (formerly Level 3)</p> | <p>Completion of a two year early learning and child care diploma program offered by an Alberta public college or has completed an equivalent level of training (refer to Educational Equivalencies for Alberta Child Care Staff Certification for details).</p>   |   |



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| British Columbia | <p>One year Early Childhood Educator Certificate</p> <p>Early Childhood Educator</p> <p>Infant and Toddler Educator</p> | <p>The same certification as above, however, there is no requirement to submit a reference or complete 500 hours of supervised work experience. This certificate is only valid for one year and may only be renewed once</p> <p>Successful completion of a basic early childhood education training program with a minimum 902 hours of instruction and training in: child growth and development; program development; curriculum planning and foundations; family, community resources and communications; health, safety and nutrition; and practicum. This training is to be completed at a recognized post secondary educational institution. In addition, a written reference from an educator and completion of 500 hours of supervised work experience are required.</p> <p>Must qualify for an early childhood educator certificate and have successfully completed a specialized, post basic program that includes 250 hours of instruction in advanced child growth and development,</p> | <p>Adapted from:<br/> <a href="https://www.childcarecanada.org/sites/default/files/ECEC2016-BC.pdf">https://www.childcarecanada.org/sites/default/files/ECEC2016-BC.pdf</a></p> <p>Visit the Early Childhood Educators of BC for more information:<br/> <a href="https://www.ecebc.ca/">https://www.ecebc.ca/</a></p> |



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|                       |   | <p>safety and nutrition. To renew certification, ECE Assistants are required to complete one additional course that is part of a recognized post secondary ECE program and 400 hours of work experience relevant to early childhood education every five years.</p>   |   |
| Yukon                 | <p>Child Care Worker I</p> <p>Child Care Worker II</p> <p>Child Care Worker III</p> | <p>60 hour introduction to early childhood development course (ECD) or equivalent</p> <p>One year of training in ECD or equivalent from a recognized college or university</p> <p>Two or more years of training in ECD or equivalent from a recognized college or university.</p>   | <p>Adapted from: <a href="https://www.childcarecanada.org/sites/default/files/ECEC2016-YT.pdf">https://www.childcarecanada.org/sites/default/files/ECEC2016-YT.pdf</a></p> <p>For information on Early Childhood Education study bursaries: <a href="https://yukon.ca/en/early-childhood-education-bursary">https://yukon.ca/en/early-childhood-education-bursary</a></p> |
| Northwest Territories |   | <p>Primary staff must be at least 19 years of age and have a certificate in first aid and infant/child cardiopulmonary resuscitation.</p> <p>Primary staff must have successfully completed a postsecondary program (minimum of a one year certificate) in child development satisfactory to the Director or demonstrate to the satisfaction of the</p> | <p>Adapted from: <a href="https://www.childcarecanada.org/sites/default/files/ECEC2016-NT.pdf">https://www.childcarecanada.org/sites/default/files/ECEC2016-NT.pdf</a></p>  |

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|         |  | Director an understanding of developmentally appropriate practices in respect of children and the ability to apply that understanding to the operator's child day care program  |  |
| Nunavut |  | <p>There are no early childhood training requirements.</p> <p>Staff must be at least 19 years of age, have an awareness of early childhood development theory, and have an awareness of the basic health and safety measures.</p> | <p>Adpated from:<br/> <a href="https://www.childcarecanada.org/sites/default/files/ECEC2016-NU.pdf">https://www.childcarecanada.org/sites/default/files/ECEC2016-NU.pdf</a></p> <p>For more information on Early Childhood Education and Care in Nunavut:<br/> <a href="https://www.gov.nu.ca/education/information/early-learning-and-child-care">https://www.gov.nu.ca/education/information/early-learning-and-child-care</a></p> |