

Gateways to Opportunity **Infant Toddler Credential** Framework

ECE Levels	General Education Requirements	Education and Training in Early Care & Education	Work and Practical Experience in Early Care & Education	Professional Contributions in Early Care & Education	ITC Levels	Education and Training in Infants & Toddlers	Work and Practical Experience in Infants & Toddlers
Level 6	Graduate Degree	In Development			Level 6	In Development	
Level 5	Bachelor's Degree	30 points in the ECE Content Areas <i>(of level 5 benchmarks)</i> – of which a maximum of 6 points may be from credential approved training, and 3 of those 6 points may come from assessment of prior learning For the ITC only, the Type 04 Certificate meets these requirements	Minimum of 200 hours of ECE supervised experience or 1200 total hours of documented ECE work experience	Four professional contributions in three different areas within the last five years – one contribution must be in the area of program improvement.	Level 5	12 points in Infant and Toddler education and approved training, of which a maximum of 6 points may be from credential approved training	100 hours of supervised experience in Infants and Toddlers or 1800 hours of documented IT work experience
Level 4	Associate's Degree or 60+ semester hours (including the nine semester hours listed at level 3)	24 points in the ECE Content Areas <i>(of level 2-4 benchmarks)</i> – of which a maximum of 3 points may be from credential approved training, and 1 of those 3 points may come from assessment of prior learning <i>(must include 20 clock hours of ECE observation)</i>	100 total hours of ECE supervised experience or 600 total hours of documented ECE work experience	Two professional contributions in two different areas within the last five years – one contribution must be in the area of program improvement.	Level 4	6 points in Infant and Toddler education and approved training, of which a maximum of 3 points may be from credential approved training	50 hours of supervised experience in Infants and Toddlers or 900 hours of documented IT work experience
Level 3	Three semester hours: Math Three semester hours: English Three semester hours: General Education elective (Psychology, Sociology, etc) <i>(These 9 credits must be transferable)</i>	18 points in the ECE Content Areas <i>(of level 2-4 benchmarks)</i> – of which a maximum of 3 points may be from credential approved training, and 1 of those 3 points may come from assessment of prior learning <i>(must include 20 clock hours of ECE observation)</i>	10 hours of ECE supervised experience or 400 total hours of documented ECE work experience	One professional contribution in any area within the last five years	Level 3	6 points in Infant and Toddler education and approved training, of which a maximum of 3 points may be from credential approved training	10 hours of supervised experience in Infants and Toddlers or 450 hours of documented IT work experience
Level 2	High School Diploma or GED	12 points in the ECE Content Areas <i>(of level 2-4 benchmarks)</i> – 3 points in Human Growth and Development, 3 points in Health Safety and Well-Being, and 6 points from ECE electives or 6 points in ECE electives and a CDA, CCP, or Montessori Credential through AMS* 3 points may be from credential approved training, and 1 of those 3 points may come from assessment of prior learning	10 hours of ECE observation or 200 hours of documented ECE work experience	Membership in a related professional organization	Level 2	3 points in Infant and Toddler education and approved training, of which all 3 points may be from credential approved training	5 hours of supervised experience in Infants and Toddlers or 200 hours of documented IT work experience

Guide: A point is equivalent to one semester hour of college credit.

*American Montessori Society (AMS) Early Childhood and Infant Toddler Credentials count for a maximum of 6 points of credential approved training for the ECE, Infant Toddler Credential, or Illinois Director Credential.

Please note: the ECE Credential is the required foundation for the Infant Toddler Credential. The ECE Credential level must be equal to or higher than the Infant Toddler Credential level attained.