



Illinois State Board of Education

Early Childhood Department Licensure Requirements

Educator Area	Licensure Requirements
<u>Early Childhood Education</u> Teacher	1) Current Professional Educator License (PEL) with an Early Childhood Education endorsement OR 2) Short-Term Approval for Early Childhood Education OR 3) Educator License with Stipulations endorsed for alternative provisional education (ELS-APE) with an Early Childhood Education endorsement OR 4) Educator License with Stipulations endorsed for visiting international educator (ELS-VIT) with an Early Childhood Education endorsement
Preschool for All and Preschool for All Expansion Teacher	1) Early Childhood Education teacher OR 2) ECE Credential Level of 5 awarded by Department of Human Services under the Gateways to Opportunity Program while pursuing a PEL (through 2023-2024 School Year)
<u>Blended Classroom Teacher when responsible for providing IEP minutes</u>	Early Childhood Education teacher AND one of the following: 1) Early Childhood Special Education approval (<u>Pre-Kindergarten only</u>) OR 2) Early Childhood Special Education Endorsement (Birth- Grade 3) OR 3) Short-Term Emergency Approval for Early Childhood Special Education (Pre-Kindergarten only) OR 4) Learning Behavior Specialist I endorsement OR 5) Short Term Emergency Approval for Learning Behavior Specialist I (K- age 22)
<u>Bilingual Instruction</u> Preschool Teacher	Early Childhood Education teacher AND 1) Bilingual Education endorsement
<u>ESL Instruction</u> Preschool Teacher	Early Childhood Education teacher AND 1) Bilingual Education endorsement OR 2) English as a Second Language endorsement OR 3) English as a New Language (Pre-Kindergarten- Grade 12) endorsement (If there is an Early Childhood Education teacher serving as classroom teacher, the ESL Instruction teacher may provide



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	itinerant services and serve as a co-teacher and not have Early Childhood Education licensure)
Early Childhood Special Education Classroom Teacher	1) Early Childhood Special Education endorsement (Birth- Grade 3) OR 2) LBSI (PK-22, K-22) + the Early Childhood Special Education teacher endorsement OR 3) Early Childhood Special Education approval (Pre-Kindergarten setting only) OR 4) Short-Term Emergency Approval for Early Childhood Special Education (Pre-Kindergarten setting only) 5) Short-Term Emergency Approval for Learning Behavior Specialist I (K- age 22)
Classroom Paraprofessional	Current Paraprofessional Educator License
Directors or Building Principals of preschool programs administered by school districts	PEL endorsed for Principal or General Administration
Directors of childcare centers	1) Minimum of a baccalaureate degree in child development or early childhood education or the equivalent AND 2) Gateways to Opportunity Level II or III Illinois Director Credential
Substitute Teacher*	1) Substitute license OR 2) Hold a valid Illinois educator license and a bachelor's degree *Can serve in place of a contracted teacher for up to 90 days or in emergency situations for up to 30 days when no teacher is under contract with the district