

Missouri's Early Childhood and School Age Education Matrix

Education Matrix designations for Early Childhood and School Age are based on two factors:

- The level (Level 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5) is determined by the total verified college and/or formal degree(s) earned from regionally accredited institutions.
- For levels 2-5, the step (a, b, or c) is determined by the number of verified content specific* courses.
- *Levels 3c and above are ideal for professionals.*

		Level					
		1	2	3	4	5	
		Less than CDA**/YDC**/equivalent (9 college credits with 6 approved college credits), 1 year Certificate of Proficiency or 30 college credits	CDA/YDC/equivalent (9 college credits with 6 approved college credits), 1 year Certificate of Proficiency or 30 college credits	Associate's Degree or 60 college credits	Bachelor's Degree	Graduate Degree	
Step	a	For Levels 2-5: less than 15 approved college credits	Some High School	CDA or YDC or equivalent (9 college credits with 6 approved college credits) or 1 year certificate of proficiency or 30 college credits with less than 15 approved college credits	Associate's degree or 60 college credits with less than 15 approved college credits	Bachelor's degree with less than 15 approved college credits	Master's degree or higher with less than 15 approved college credits
	b	For Levels 2-5: 15-23 approved college credits	High School or less than CDA/YDC/equivalent or less than 30 college credits	1 year certificate of proficiency or 30 college credits with 15-23 approved college credits	Associate's degree or 60 college credits with 15-23 approved college credits	Bachelor's degree with 15-23 approved college credits	Master's degree or higher with 15-23 approved college credits
	c	For Levels 2-5: 24 or more approved college credits		1 year certificate of proficiency or 30 college credits with 24 or more approved college credits	Associate's degree or 60 college credits with 24 or more approved college credits	Bachelor's degree with 24 or more approved college credits	Master's degree or higher with 24 or more approved college credits

* College coursework that focuses on one or more of the content areas of the Core Competencies for Early Childhood and Youth Development Professionals: Kansas and Missouri.

** CDA = Child Development Associate; YDC = Youth Development Credential

Missouri's Education Matrix recognizes and verifies formal education of content specific courses completed by professionals in the early childhood, school age, and youth development fields.



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