

## **Early Learning and Child Care Professional Level Certification Guidelines**

The Early Learning and Child Care Unit is responsible for assessing educational transcripts to determine the level certification for early learning and child care professionals who work in licensed child care programs in Yukon.

Coursework considered for equivalency must be credit coursework from a recognized post secondary educational institute and correspond with coursework outlined in schedule A of this document. Early Learning and Child Care coursework from Yukon University is accepted. If you are interested in pursuing training from other educational programs, we recommend that you contact the Early Learning and Child Care Unit to verify whether or not the educational program is recognized towards early childhood educator level certification.

There are five levels of certification:

- Level 1            60 hours of coursework, or equivalent, in early childhood development.
  
- Level IA            Minimum 45 hours in the Health and Social Science stream  
                         Minimum 60 hours in the Child Development stream  
                         Minimum 45 hours in the Professional Practice in Early Learning and  
                         Child Care stream  
                         Minimum 45 hours in the Methods stream  
                         Minimum 135 hours in the Field/Practicum Placement stream
  
- Level 2            Minimum 45 hours in the Health and Social Science stream  
                         Minimum 90 hours in the Child Development stream  
                         Minimum 45 hours in the Professional Practice in Early Learning and  
                         Child Care stream  
                         Minimum 90 hours in the Methods stream  
                         Minimum 45 hours in the Communication stream  
                         Minimum 390 hours in the Field/Practicum Placement stream
  
- Level 2A            Minimum 90 hours in the Health and Social Science stream  
                         Minimum 135 hours in the Child Development stream  
                         Minimum 90 hours in the Professional Practice in Early Learning and  
                         Child Care stream  
                         Minimum 135 hours in the Methods stream  
                         Minimum 45 hours in the Communication stream  
                         Minimum 645 hours in the Field/Practicum Placement stream
  
- Level 3            Minimum 90 hours in the Health and Social Science stream  
                         Minimum 180 hours in the Child Development stream  
                         Minimum 180 hours in the Professional Practice in Early Learning and  
                         Child Care stream  
                         Minimum 180 hours in the Methods stream  
                         Minimum 90 hours in the Communication stream  
                         Minimum 900 hours in the Field/Practicum Placement stream

To receive Level 3 Professional Level Certification, applicants must have a completed two-year Early Learning and Child Care diploma, Early Childhood Development diploma or completion of two years or more of equivalent post-secondary education satisfying the above requirements.

## **Areas of education considered for level certification**

### **Early Childhood Certificate and Diplomas**

A completed certificate (one-year) in Early Childhood Education or Early Childhood Development may be equivalent to Level 2 Certification.

A completed diploma (two or more years) in Early Childhood Education or Early Childhood Development may be equivalent to Level 3 Certification.

If an applicant fully meets all the requirements for a Level 3 Certification, no additional course work is required to maintain this level certification. It is highly recommended that educators continue to enroll in workshops, courses, conferences, and participate in communities of practice and/or learning networks as part of ongoing professional learning and development.

### **Montessori**

An Association Montessori International Diploma or Toronto Montessori Institute Diploma may be equivalent to Level 2 Certification.

### **Related Diploma and Degree Programs**

A Bachelor of Education Degree may be considered for a Level 3 Equivalency Certification. Other related degrees or diplomas may be considered for Level 3 Equivalency at the discretion of the Director of Early Learning and Child Care. Applicants must have also successfully completed a 60-hour early childhood development course. If an applicant holding a Bachelor of Education or other related degree is granted a Level 3 Equivalent Certification, the certification will be valid for one year.

Professionals holding Level 3 Equivalent Certification, must complete a minimum 45-hour post-secondary approved and accredited early learning and childhood development coursework, during the one-year period to maintain their Level 3 Equivalent Certification. The accredited course must advance the applicants ability to fulfill the requirements outlined in the Professional Level Certification Guidelines and demonstrate the applicant is working towards meeting the requirements of Level 3 Certification.

To be considered for a Level 3 Equivalent Certificate renewal, the applicant must re-apply prior to the expiration of their certification, and provide proof of successful completion of coursework that meets the above criteria. If the applicant meets the requirements, certification will be granted for an additional year. If the applicant does not meet the requirements prior to the expiration date on their Level 3 Equivalent Certificate; their Level 3 Equivalent Certification is no longer valid.

Professionals currently holding a Level 3 Equivalent Certificate are encouraged to reach out to an Early Learning Program Specialist in the Early Learning and Child Care Unit, to receive support in determining an individualized pathway to full certification.

## **Education completed outside of Canada**

The Early Learning and Child Care Unit does not evaluate degree and diploma programs obtained outside of Canada. Completed programs that are accepted by an accredited post-secondary institution as equivalent may be considered.

Applicants can submit their coursework to a recognized Canadian credentialing agency to determine equivalency of coursework within Canada. A list of potential credentialing agencies is provided at: <https://yukon.ca/en/assessing-your-qualifications-if-youre-foreign-worker>.

## **How to apply for level certification**

An applicant requesting professional certification must submit an application and an official transcript of completed coursework, issued by the post-secondary institution, to the Early Learning and Child Care Unit for assessment. The unit may request that the applicant submit a course syllabus to assist in the assessment process.

The Early Learning and Child Care Unit will not process applications from applicants outside of Canada who do not intend to work in licensed child care programs in Yukon.

Applicants will receive a status letter in the mail within 20 working days from the date of submission. Applications are available at the Early Learning and Child Care office located at the Department of Education building, 1000 Lewes Boulevard, in Whitehorse or on [Yukon.ca](https://yukon.ca).

**SCHEDULE A**  
**Child Care Professional Level Designation Guidelines**

<b>Health &amp; Social Science Stream</b>	<b>Child Development Stream</b>	<b>Professional Practice in Early Learning and Child Care Stream</b>	<b>Methods Stream</b>	<b>Field/Practicum Experience</b>	<b>Communication Stream</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health, Nutrition, and Safety (45 hours)</li> <li>• Ecology of the Family (45 hours)</li> <li>• Sociology of the Family (45 hours)</li> <li>• Health &amp; Social Science Courses: relevant to ELCC will be considered such as counseling, social psychology, and qualitative research methods (45 hours)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child Growth and Development I (45 hours)</li> <li>• Human Growth &amp; Development II (45 hours)</li> <li>• Guiding Young Children (45 hours)</li> <li>• Exceptional Children (45 hours)</li> <li>• Developmental Psychology (45 hours)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultural Competency in Early Learning and Child Care (45 hours)</li> <li>• Leadership, Teambuilding and Administration in Early Learning and Child Care (45 hours)</li> <li>• Philosophies of ELCC (45 hours)</li> <li>• Family, Program, Community (45 hours)</li> <li>• Communication of Learning, Formative Assessment, Pedagogical Narration (45 hours)</li> <li>• Guiding Relationships (45 hours)</li> <li>• Inclusive Practice (45 hours)</li> <li>• Principals and Practices (45 hours)</li> <li>• Cultural Perspectives on Practice (45 hours)</li> <li>• Educator Researcher (45 hours)</li> <li>• Theoretical Perspectives (45 hours)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to Early Childhood (45 hours)</li> <li>• Learning Through Play (45 hours)</li> <li>• Literacy and Creative Expression (45 hours)</li> <li>• Science with Children (45 hours) Examples include primary science,</li> <li>• Outdoor Environments/Place based learning (45hours)</li> <li>• Fine Arts with Children Examples: primary music and drama (45 hours).</li> <li>• Curriculum and/or Early Learning Framework (45 hours)</li> <li>• Designing Learning Environments (45 hours)</li> <li>• Infant and Toddler (45 hours)</li> <li>• Program Planning and/or implementation (45 hours)</li> <li>• Inquiry Based Learning (45 hours)</li> </ul>	<p>ELCC programs offer a variety of field/practicum placement structures. Hours will be assessed accordingly.</p> <p>Examples include Yukon University Courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Field Placement I</li> <li>• Integration Seminar I</li> <li>• Field Placement II</li> <li>• Integration Seminar II</li> <li>• Field Placement III</li> <li>• Integration Seminar III</li> <li>• Field Placement IV</li> <li>• Integration Seminar IV</li> </ul> <p>For completed related degree and diploma programs, flexibility will be used when assessing practicum hours.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interpersonal Relationships and Communication Skills (45 hours)</li> <li>• Written/oral language course (45 hours)</li> </ul> <p>Examples include Yukon University courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENGL 100</li> <li>• COMM 100</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interpersonal Communications (45 hours)</li> <li>• Business Communications (45 hours)</li> </ul> <p>First Nations Language Courses: Yukon Native Language/ Centre and Simon Fraser University. (45 hours)</p> <p>A written/oral language must be completed for a level 3 designation.</p>