

ALASKA SEED CAREER LADDER

Early Care & Education (ECE) Professionals in licensed child care centers or homes, pre-k, pre-elementary school, school-age, school district, military child care, tribal child care, Early Head Start/Head Start, and in-home visiting

LEVEL 1	Working in the early care and education field OR High School diploma/GED with motivation to advance in the ECE field
LEVEL 2	24 hours of SEED-approved training
LEVEL 3	<i>Planting the SEED of Success</i> (40-hour foundation course) OR 1 Early Childhood (EC) credit***
LEVEL 4	60 hours of CDA training OR 60 hours of SEED-approved training OR 2 EC credits***
LEVEL 5	120 hours of SEED-approved training OR 3 EC credits***
LEVEL 6	Current CDA OR 6 EC credits***
LEVEL 7	12 EC credits***
LEVEL 8	18 EC credits***
LEVEL 9	Associate Degree in ECE or related field** OR unrelated field with 18 EC credits***
LEVEL 10	Baccalaureate Degree in ECE or related field** OR unrelated field with 30 EC credits***
LEVEL 11	Master's Degree in ECE or related field** OR unrelated field with 30 EC credits***
LEVEL 12	Doctorate in ECE or related field** OR unrelated field with 30 EC credits***

Early Intervention/Infant Learning Program (EI/ILP) Professionals: EI/ILP provides early intervention services to children ages birth to 3 who qualify for special education services under Part C of IDEA

LEVEL 7	DEVELOPMENTAL ASSOCIATE I* Current CDA or current PAT credential AND completion of applicable sections of the Part C Credential
LEVEL 8	DEVELOPMENTAL ASSOCIATE II* Associate's Degree in related field without licensure AND completion of applicable sections of the Part C Credential
LEVEL 9	DEVELOPMENTAL SPECIALIST I* Bachelor's Degree in related field without current certification or licensure OR Associate's Degree in a related field with current licensure AND completion of the Part C Credential
LEVEL 10	DEVELOPMENTAL SPECIALIST II* Bachelor's Degree in related field with current certification or licensure OR Master's Degree in a related field without certification or licensure AND completion of the Part C Credential
LEVEL 11	DEVELOPMENTAL SPECIALIST III* Master's Degree in related field with current certification or licensure AND completion of the Part C Credential
LEVEL 12	DEVELOPMENTAL SPECIALIST IV* Ph.D. in related field with current certification or licensure (as required) AND completion of the Part C Credential

* EI/ILP STAFF ARE IN PROVISIONAL STATUS PENDING COMPLETION OF THE PART C CREDENTIAL.

** FOR SEED RELATED FIELDS PLEASE SEE BACK PAGE

*** COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY CREDITS

INTERPRETATION OF LEVELS

The information below provides further definitions for each of the SEED levels. Specific questions not addressed in this information can be directed to SEED Registry staff.

LEVEL 1

- » High School Diploma or GED is not required to be a member in the Alaska SEED Registry.
- » Work in the field of early care and education includes both direct care and education and administrative/consulting roles as detailed on the Registry Application.

LEVEL 2

- » Training must be from a SEED-approved source including: Child Care Resource and Referral Agency (CCR&R), accredited university, CDA Council, Child Care Licensing, Head Start, military, Infant Learning, school district, Child Care Food Program, early childhood conferences, distance delivery such as Child Care Exchange, Nova, Wheelock, Better Kid Care, CARE Courses, Concordia, Bank Street, Montessori, or training received outside of the United States.

LEVEL 3

- » 40-hour, *Planting the SEED of Success: Foundations of Early Care and Education* (refer to Glossary of Terms).
- » 1 EC credits (no specific course requirement).

LEVEL 4

- » Training must meet CDA guidelines and include 3 of the 8 CDA core knowledge content areas: Growth and Development, Observing and Recording, Physical and Intellectual, Planning Safe, Healthy Learning Environments, Professionalism, Program Management, Social and Emotional Development, Relationships with Families.
- » SEED-approved training that meets SEED standards, for example "Parents as Teachers" and Montessori.
- » 2 EC credits (no specific course requirement).

LEVEL 5

- » SEED-approved training (see Level 4).
- » 3 EC credits must be an introductory course in EC.

LEVEL 6

- » The CDA must be current at the time of the application to the Registry and be kept current to maintain this level.
- » 6 EC credits (a 3-credit introductory course must be included in the 6 EC credits)

LEVEL 7

- » 12 EC credits (no specific course requirement).
- » EI/ILP Track: Current CDA or current PAT credential and completion of applicable sections of Part C Credential

LEVEL 8

- » 18 EC credits (no specific course requirement).
- » EI/ILP Track: Associate's Degree in related field (refer to Glossary of Terms) without licensure and completion of applicable sections of Part C Credential.

LEVEL 9

- » Associate's Degree in ECE or related field OR unrelated field with 18 EC credits (no specific course requirement).
- » EI/ILP Track: Bachelor's Degree in related field (refer to Glossary of Terms) without certification or licensure or Associate's Degree in related field with licensure AND completion of the Part C Credential.

LEVEL 10

- » Baccalaureate Degree in ECE or related field or unrelated field with 30 EC credits (no specific course requirement)
- » EI/ILP Track: Bachelor's Degree in related field (refer to Glossary of Terms) with current certification or licensure or Master's Degree in related field without certification and licensure and Completion of the Part C Credential.

LEVEL 11

- » Master's Degree in ECE or unrelated field with 30 EC credits (no specific course requirement).
- » EI/ILP Track: Master's Degree in related field (refer to Glossary of Terms) with current certification or licensure or Master's Degree in related field without certification and licensure and completion of Part C Credential.

LEVEL 12

- » Doctorate in ECE or related field or unrelated field with 30 EC credits (no specific course requirement).
- » EI/ILP Track: Ph.D. in related field (refer to Glossary of Terms) with current certification and licensure (as required) and completion of the Part C Credential.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

EC – Early Childhood

ECE – Early Care and Education

Planting the SEED of Success: Foundations of Early Care and Education – A 40-hour overview of the early childhood field and an orientation to working with young children that covers all eight CDA content areas. Participants must register for the full series of trainings that includes a follow-up self-study.

Credits and/or Degrees – All credits and degrees must be from an accredited university or college. To verify accredited universities or colleges, visit <http://ope.ed.gov/accreditation>. Professional Development Courses (500-level) earned through a college or university are not counted as EC credits on the SEED Career Ladder, but are accepted by the State of Alaska Child Care Program Office and Municipality of Anchorage Child Care Licensing towards annual training hours and by the Council for Professional Recognition towards the Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential.

SEED Related Fields – Early childhood education, school-age care, child development, social work, nursing, early childhood special education that addresses child development and learning from birth through kindergarten, health and safety, elementary education or other child-related fields.

CDA (Child Development Associate Credential) – To learn more about the CDA, visit <http://www.CDACouncil.org>

Infant Learning Program (ILP) – The Alaska ILP program, also known as the Early Intervention (EI) or Part C program, is a federally funded special education program that provides supports to infants, toddlers and their families (birth to age 3). Part C is a subsection of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) which governs special education, specifically children birth to age 3. There are EI/ILP/Part C programs throughout Alaska.

EI/ILP Related Fields – Associate Degree Related Fields Level 8: Early Childhood Care and Education, Early Childhood Development, Early Childhood Education, Early Childhood Special Education Associate Related Fields that require licensure Level 9: Speech Language Pathologist Assistant, Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant and Physical Therapy Assistant Developmental Specialist Related Fields Levels 10, 11 & 12: audiology, early childhood special education; family therapy and counseling; nursing (including LPN, RN, midwife, health aide); orientation and mobility training; pediatric or other medical specialty; physical therapy; psychology; social work; special education (including teachers of children with hearing impairments, vision impairments or language disorders); speech and language pathology; language disorders; vision training; dietitian; other related fields as determined by the State ILP office including nutrition, family studies, early childhood development and education.

Part C Credential – In-service training credential required of all Alaska EI/ILP employees. All EI/ILP employees must successfully complete the Part C Credential to move from provisional to professional status on the SEED Registry.

Certification/Licensure – Teachers are issued teaching certificates by the State Department of Education and Early Development. Other professionals, such as Occupational Therapist, Speech Therapist, etc. are issued licenses to practice their discipline by the State licensing board particular to their profession. It is the responsibility of the EI/ILP employee to maintain an active teaching certificate or professional license and keep it updated with the SEED Registry.