

## Rules Regulating Child Care Center | Large Center Director

### 7.702.42 Director Qualifications - Large Child Care Center

- A. The educational requirements for the director or substitute director of a large center must be met by satisfactory completion of one of the following. (All course hours are given in semester hours, but equivalent quarter hours are acceptable.) Official college transcripts must be submitted to the Department for evaluation of qualifications.
1. A Bachelor degree in early childhood education from a regionally accredited Colorado college or university; or,
  2. A current early childhood professional Credential Level IV Version 2.0 as determined by the Colorado Department of Education; or,
  3. A master's degree with a major emphasis in child development, Early Childhood Education, Early Childhood Special Education; or,
  4. Completion of all of the following three (3) semester hour courses from a regionally accredited college or university, at either a two year, four year or graduate level, in each of the following subject or content areas:
    - a. Introduction to early childhood professions;
    - b. Introduction to early childhood lab techniques;
    - c. Early childhood guidance strategies for children;
    - d. Early childhood health, nutrition, and safety;
    - e. Administration of early childhood care and education programs;
    - f. Administration: human relations for early childhood professions or introduction to business;
    - g. Early childhood curriculum development;
    - h. Early childhood growth and development.
    - i. The exceptional child; and,
    - j. Infant/toddler theory and practice; or the Department approved expanding quality infant/toddler training; or,
  5. Completion of a course of training approved by the Department that includes course content listed at Section 7.702.42, A, 3, a-j, and experience listed at Section 7.702.42, B.

- B. The experience requirements for the director of a large center must be met by completion of the following amount of work experience in a child development program, which includes working with a group of children in such programs as a preschool, child care center, kindergarten, or Head Start program:
1. Persons with Bachelor's or Master's degree with a major emphasis in child development, early childhood education, early childhood special education, or an early childhood professional Credential Level IV Version 2.0 as determined by the Colorado Department of Education; no additional experience is required.
  2. Persons with a 2-year college degree in early childhood education must have twelve (12) months (1,820 hours) of verified experience working directly with children in a child development program.
  3. Persons with a Bachelor's degree and completion of courses specified in Sections 7.702.42, A, 3, a-j, must have twelve (12) months (1,820 hours) of verified experience working directly with children in a child development program.
  4. Persons who have no degree but have completed the thirty (30) semester hours specified in Section 7.702.42, A, 3, a-j, must have twenty-four (24) months (3,640 hours) of verified experience working directly with children in a child development program.
  5. Verified experience acquired in a licensed Colorado family child care home or school-age child care center may count for up to half of the required experience for director qualifications. To have Colorado family child care home experience considered, the applicant must be or have been the licensee. The other half of the required experience must be working directly with children in a child development program.
  6. Experience with five (5) year olds must be verified as follows:
    - a. If experience caring for five year old children occurs in a child care center classroom, the hours worked shall be counted as preschool experience; or,
    - b. If experience caring for five year old children occurs in an elementary school program, the hours worked shall be counted as school-age experience.