



Early Educator Certification Quick Facts

Quick Numbers

- Over 1,000 students, parents, teachers, directors, providers, etc. participated in focus groups. Many more have provided applicant evaluations and participate in discussions and trainings to inform the design of the certification system.
- Over 1,500 Early Educators have participated in Institute trainings about EEC since 2009.
- Over 4,000 unique visitors used the Institute's website every month (in 2010).
- Over 2.3 million hits to the Institute's website were recorded in the last seven months of 2010.
- Over 7,000 Early Educators are using education originally submitted to DCD to get certified.
- Over 14,200 Early Educators are fully certified (*as of 3/16/11*).
- An additional 11,500 Early Educators with working email addresses who have applied for certification now have their EEC identification number, which enables them to access EEC Rewards (discounts).

Quick Facts

DCD (NC Division of Child Development)...

- Has been involved, and continues to be involved, in the EEC process from its inception, providing resources and giving input in its design and implementation.
- Requires new applicants to submit complete EEC applications to the NC Institute for Child Development Professionals within 60 days of hire.
- Uses educational evaluation information from the Institute to process rated license applications.
- Can request that the Institute expedite processing for applications needed for facility licensure, resulting in quick processing.

The Institute (NC Institute for Child Development Professionals)...

- Is working to fully implement the EEC system.
- Reports numbers and shares data.
- Is working with DCD and the Child Care Commission to make existing rules simpler and more flexible.
- Has a board & EEC advisory committee with equal representation of for-profit, Head Start, preK programs, etc.
- Continues to gather input to strengthen the process - through applicant evaluations, presentations, surveys, emails and meetings with any partner upon request.
- Provides a website for information. The Institute's website is loaded with information. Use the search box at the top of the page to quickly find information.

Learn more! www.ncicdp.org



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Early Educator Certification (EEC)...

Does not

- Require certification on a particular level.
- Require a test.
- Replace teacher licenses.

Does

- Provide documentation that can be used to verify education at the time of hire.
- Provide options for renewal for the majority of the workforce so we all have a base of education in the field.
- Allow for more time to complete continuing education requirements (three or five years) as of July 2010.
- Provide detailed information regarding renewal requirements in each certification letter. Those certified prior to July 2010 are being notified that they now have more time and/or fewer renewal requirements to meet.
- Use consistent education scales and policies. No scale changes are planned for years to come.
- Give access to discounts on goods and services (see EEC Rewards).
- Send data to DCD for facility licensure.
- Expedite applications upon DCD request. Child care facilities undergoing rated license visits should inform their DCD consultants if additional education has been sent to EEC. If so, DCD will request quick processing to make sure facilities receive the highest stars possible.
- Recognize degrees in other fields.
- Recognize formal course credits regardless of when they were earned.
- Require ongoing learning.

Learn more: <http://ncicdp.org/certification-licensure/renewal/>

Renewal Brochure: http://www.ncicdp.org/documents/MaintainingEEC_brochure2010_Final%20PDF.pdf

Continuing Education Units (CEUs) Are...

- Being offered and/or created across the state. See Calendar of Events (<http://ncicdp.org/calendar-of-events/>).
- Affordable – from free sessions, to low cost sessions, to conferences and more.
- Growing -- 20 new, five-hour sessions will be available in community colleges soon (see <http://ncicdp.org/projects/>).
- Typically counted for annual in-service training hours needed for DCD as well, as long as the trainer is approved by the Division.

Learn more: <http://ncicdp.org/continuing-education/continuing-education-sources/>

Scholarship Sources: www.ncicdp.org/education

EEC Renewal Scholarship: http://www.ncicdp.org/documents/TEACH%20EEC%20RENEWAL%20SCHOLARSHIP%20PRD%2012_10.pdf

College Foundations for CEUs: Contact your area's Community College Foundation to ask about scholarships.