

TEACHER CREDENTIAL PATHWAYS

By August 1, 2020, 50% of regular education pre-kindergarten teachers in each district will meet the requirements described below. By August 1, 2022, 100% of regular education pre-kindergarten teachers in each district will meet the requirements described below.

General Education Teachers are required to follow one of the pathways listed below:

GENERAL EDUCATION PRE-KINDERGARTEN CLASSROOMS

Hold a Pre-K/K (153) License

OR

**Hold a K-3 (116) License
or
Hold a K-4 (152) License**

AND

Complete twelve (12) early childhood college credit hours*
OR
Attain a Passing Score on the MSBE Approved Licensure Assessment to add 153 (Pre-K/K) endorsement
OR
Completion of a early childhood training program*

OR

Hold a K-6 (120) License

AND

Complete requirements to add N-1 (150) supplemental endorsement
OR
Attain a Passing Score on the MSBE Approved Licensure Assessment to add 153 (Pre-K/K) endorsement
OR
12 early childhood college credit hours*
OR
Completion of a early childhood training program*

OR

Other Pathways

AND

Completion of an approved Licensure pathway degree program to obtain 116 (K-3), 120 (K-6), 152 (K-4), or 153 (Pre-K/K) endorsement
AND
Any additional requirements as listed above for 116 (K-3), 120 (K-6), 152 (K-4)

OR

Bachelor's Degree or higher with child development emphasis

AND

Attain Passing Score on the MSBE Approved Basic Skills Assessment or ACT equivalent
AND
Attain Passing Scores on all required MSBE Approved Licensure Assessments to include a pedagogy and subject area assessment

By August 1, 2020, 50% of special education pre-kindergarten teachers in each district will meet the requirements described below. By August 1, 2022, 100% of special education pre-kindergarten teachers in each district will meet the requirements described below.

Special Education Teachers are required to follow one of the pathways listed below:

SPECIAL EDUCATION PRE-KINDERGARTEN CLASSROOMS

Hold Birth-K Special Education License (211)

OR

Hold Mild to Moderate Disability K-12 (221) License

Hold Severe Disability K-12 (222) License

Hold Mild to Moderate Disability K-8 (223) License

AND

12 early childhood college credit hours*

OR

Attain a passing score on the appropriate MSBE approved licensure assessment to add 153 (Pre-K/K) endorsement

OR

Completion of a early childhood training program*

*Completion of a Mississippi State Board of Education approved early childhood education training program includes the Child Development Associate (CDA), National Board Early Childhood Certification, Director’s Credential, Montessori Credential, and the MDE’s intensive specialized early childhood training program (122 Pre-K add on endorsement). MDE considers additional state, regional, or nationally approved programs upon request. Entities may submit program component documentation to earlychildhood@mdek12.org for consideration. Please note that the completion of a Mississippi State Board of Education approved training program or MDE prescribed twelve (12) hours of coursework only qualifies a prospective early childhood education teacher or early childhood education assistant teacher to serve three and four-year old children in Mississippi classrooms and does not lead to an endorsement/licensure unless it is explicitly stated and outlined in the official *Licensure Guidelines K-12* document. To review the most accurate and up to date licensure requirements, please visit the Office of Educator Licensure section of the MDE website.

Requirements for Assistant Teachers for August 2020

The pre-kindergarten assistant teacher qualifications will change effective August 1, 2020.

By August 1, 2020, 50% of assistant teachers in each district will meet the requirements described below. By August 1, 2022, 100% of assistant teachers in each district will meet the requirements described below.

Assistant teachers are required to follow one of the pathways listed below:

ASSISTANT TEACHERS FOR PRE-KINDERGARTEN CLASSROOMS		
Early Childhood Associate's Degree		
OR		
Associate's Degree OR 60 College Credit Hours	AND	12 early childhood college credit hours* OR Completion of an early childhood training program**
OR		
High School Diploma/GED *** AND Verification of WorkKeys® Scores****	AND	12 early childhood college credit hours OR Completion of an early childhood training program**

*These hours can be included in the Associate's Degree or 60 College Credit Hours

**Completion of an early childhood training program includes the Child Development Associate (CDA), National/State Director's Credential, Montessori Credential, and the MDE's intensive specialized early childhood training program. MDE considers additional state, regional, or nationally approved programs upon request. Entities may submit program component documentation to earlychildhood@mdek12.org for consideration. The National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER) requires assistant teachers to have a CDA or equivalent, at a minimum. Please note that the completion of a Mississippi State Board of Education approved training program or MDE prescribed twelve (12) hours of coursework only qualifies a prospective early childhood education teacher or early childhood education assistant teacher to serve three and four-year old children in MS classrooms and does not lead to an endorsement/licensure unless it is explicitly stated and outlined in the official *Licensure Guidelines K-12* document. To review the most accurate and up to date licensure requirements, please visit the Office of Educator Licensure section of the MDE website.

***These requirements will no longer be acceptable for new pre-kindergarten teacher assistant hires beginning August 1, 2020.

**** To meet WorkKeys® requirements, Assistant Teachers must meet the following criteria: (1) a Reading for Information score of 4, an Applied Mathematics score of 4, and a Writing or Business Writing score of 3; **OR** (2) WorkKeys® Silver Level certification.