

Career Options in Early Care and Education

Advanced Degrees

- Early care and education instructor at technology center, community college or university
- Curriculum specialist/coordinator
- Child development specialist
- Child guidance specialist
- Research/writer
- Early intervention specialist
- Family support and education
- Family child care home provider
- Child care center director/coordinator
- Program manager in a state agency/resource coordinator
- Teacher/administrator/special educator in a public or private elementary school-certification required.
- Early childhood consultant
- Speech and hearing pathologist
- Occupational and physical therapist
- Child psychologist
- Infant/child mental health specialist

Bachelors of Science, Bachelors of Arts, Bachelors of Education Degrees

- Early childhood teacher in Head Start or child care; public school (certification required)
- Special education teacher (certification required)
- Family childcare home provider
- Administrator in a Head Start Program
- Child care center director/coordinator
- Parent/family educator or advocate
- Program manager in a state agency/resource coordinator
- Parents as teachers coordinator
- Director of school-age (out of school time) program
- Resource and referral specialist
- Child care licensing specialist
- Adult educator
- Child life specialist in a hospital

Associate of Arts, Associate of Science or Associate of Applied Science Degrees

- Head Start teacher
- Child care master/lead teacher
- Family child care home provider
- Child care center director
- School-age program provider
- Early intervention/special needs program
- Para-professional assistant
- Home visitor

National Credential Level and Certificate of Mastery

- Head Start teacher assistant (CDA required)
- Child care teacher-master teacher
- Family child care home provider
- Child care center director
- Early Head Start teacher

Core Level-positions require minimum education and some specialized training

- Child care teaching assistant
- Family child care home provider or assistant
- School-age program assistant
- Special needs child care assistant
- Nursery attendant or volunteer
- In-home caregiver
- Camp counselor
- Substitute teacher
- Nanny

There may be other related positions that may benefit from obtaining education and training.



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OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Resources

Child Care Licensing – 405-521-3561 or 1-800-347-2276,
www.okdhs.org

Reaching for the Stars – 405-521-3561 or 1-800-347-2276,
www.okdhs.org
Consultation and Technical Support Specialist (CATSS)
405-521-3561 or 1-800-347-2276, www.okdhs.org

Center for Early Childhood Professional Development (CECPD): 405-799-6383 or 1-888-446-7608, www.cecpd.org
Services Provided:
Oklahoma Registry/REWARD Oklahoma
Video Lending Library
Child Care Career Training Series
Environment Rating Scales Assessment
Oklahoma Training Approval System

Scholars for Excellence in Child Care (Scholars) – 405-225-9395
or 1-866-343-3881, www.okhighered.org/scholars
Scholarships are available for:
Career Technology Center Scholarship (Pathway to CDA)
Community College Scholarship
CDA Assessment Scholarship

Head Start Collaboration Office – 405-949-1495,
www.okcaa.org/headstart/state

State Department of Education/Early Childhood Services –
405-521-3346, www.sde.state.ok.us

Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education –
405-377-2000, www.okcareertech.org

Oklahoma State Department of Health – 405-271-5600 or
1-800-522-0203, www.ok.gov/health/
Child Care Warmline 1-888-574-5437
Child Guidance Services 405-271-4477

Oklahoma Child Care Resource and Referral (OCCRA) –
405-942-5001, 1-888-962-2772, www.oklahomachildcare.org

Contact your local technology center, college or university to learn
more about certificate or degree programs.

State and National Professional Organizations

**National Association for the Education of
Young Children**
(NAEYC) www.naeyc.org

Early Childhood Association of Oklahoma
(ECAO) www.ecaok.org

Oklahoma Child Care Association
(OCCA) www.oklahomachildcareassociation.com

National Association for Family Child Care
(NAFCC) www.nafcc.org

Southern Early Childhood Association
(SECA) www.southernearlychildhood.org

National Child Care Association
(NCCA) www.ncca.org

National Afterschool Association
(NAA) www.naaweb.org

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