

Use this tool to assess meeting the OEC’s Head Teacher requirements and when applying.

1. **CHECK the box** for the setting (center or group) and option (must meet the education AND Experience columns).
2. Be sure to follow the application steps: [How to Apply for the OEC Head Teacher Certificate](#)

Options for Head Teacher in a Child Care Center

Applicants must be at least 20 years old	A. Education Requirement	B. Experience Requirement (must be in a program with the same or comparable standards; early childhood covers age birth to under 6 years; school age covers age 5 to under 13 years)
Head Teacher in a Child Care Center for children age birth to 5 (under age 6 years)		
Option 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	A current center-based Child Development Associate Credential issued from the Council for Professional Recognition OR	Over not less than a nine (9) month span of time: At least one thousand and eighty (1,080) hours of documented supervised experience working with children in a program that serves children under the age of 6 years.
Option 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	Twelve (12) credits in early childhood education or child development from a regionally accredited higher education institution	
Option 3 <input type="checkbox"/>	A four (4) year college degree in early childhood education or child development from a regionally accredited higher education institution	
Head Teacher in a Child Care Center for school-age children only (within the age range of 5 years to under 13 years)		
Option 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	Twelve (12) credits in early childhood education or child development, elementary education, recreation, group social work or a related field from a regionally accredited higher education institution	Over not less than a nine (9) month span of time: At least five hundred and forty (540) hours of documented supervised experience working with children in a program that serves school-age children (within the age range of 5 years to under 13 years).
Option 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	A four (4) year college degree in elementary education, recreation, group social work or a related field from a regionally accredited higher education institution	At least two hundred and seventy (270) hours of documented supervised experience working with unrelated school-age children (within the age range of 5 years to under 13 years). This supervised experience could be student teaching or a practicum assignment.
Head Teacher in a Child Care Center for children age birth to school-age (birth to under 13 years)		
Option 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	A current center-based Child Development Associate Credential issued from the Council for Professional Recognition OR	Over not less than a nine (9) month span of time: At least one thousand and eighty (1,080) hours of documented supervised experience working with children in a program serving children under the age of 6 years AND school-age children (age 5 to under 13 years).
Option 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	Twelve (12) credits in early childhood education or child development from a regionally accredited higher education institution	
Option 3 <input type="checkbox"/>	A four (4) year college degree in early childhood education or child development from a regionally accredited higher education institution	

Options for Head Teacher in a **Group Child Care Home**

Applicants must be at least 20 years old	A. Education Requirement	B. Experience Requirement (must be in a program with the same or comparable standards; early childhood covers age birth to under 6 years; school age covers age 5 to under 13 years)
Head Teacher in a Group Child Care Home for children age birth to 5 (under age 6 years)		
Option 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	A high school diploma or GED	Over not less than a nine (9) month span of time: At least one thousand and eighty (1,080) hours of experience working with unrelated children under the age of 6 years.
Option 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	A four (4) year college degree in early childhood education or child development from a regionally accredited higher education institution	At least three hundred and sixty (360) hours of experience working with unrelated children under the age of 6 years AND at least one semester of student teaching with children under the age of 6 years.
Head Teacher in a Group Child Care Home for school-age children only (within the age range of 5 years to under 13 years)		
Option 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	Twelve (12) credits in early childhood education or child development, elementary education, recreation, group social work or a related field from a regionally accredited higher education institution	Over not less than a nine (9) month span of time: At least five hundred and forty (540) hours of experience working with children in a program that serves school-age children (within the age range of 5 years to under 13 years).
Option 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	A four (4) year college degree in elementary education, recreation, group social work or a related field from a regionally accredited higher education institution	At least two hundred and seventy (270) hours of experience working with unrelated school-age children (within the age range of 5 years to under 13 years). This supervised experience could be student teaching or a practicum assignment.
Head Teacher in a Group Child Care Home for children age birth to school-age (birth to under 13 years)		
Option 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	A high school diploma or GED	Over not less than a nine (9) month span of time: At least one thousand and eighty (1,080) hours of experience working with unrelated children under the age of 6 years.
Option 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	A four (4) year college degree in early childhood education or child development from a regionally accredited higher education institution	At least three hundred and sixty (360) hours of documented supervised experience working with unrelated children under the age of 6 years in a program also serving school-age children (age 5 to under 13 years) AND at least one semester of student teaching with children under the age of 6 years.

This At-A-Glance contains sections of licensing regulations. Be sure to review the [full regulations](#).

For detail on assessing credits and degrees, refer to the [CT Common Standard for Assessing Early Childhood Credits and Degrees](#) and the [CT Common Standard for Assessing School-Age Credits and Degrees](#)