

290-3-2-.35 Early Childhood Development Approach.

(1) **Overview.** An individual who has completed at least a bachelor's level National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) accredited program in child development for birth through age four may seek an Early Childhood Development Certificate for birth through age four.

(2) **Application.** The applicant is required to submit to the Educator Certification Section the current application for this approach and documentation of having met all requirements as prescribed in Rule 290-3-2-.35 and on the application.

(3) **Requirements.** All requirements must be successfully completed prior to the date the application is received in the Educator Certification Section.

(a) Successful completion of the Alabama Special Requirements in Rule 290-3-2-.02(4).

(b) Verification on official transcript(s) of all degrees earned.

(c) Verification on an official transcript(s) of an earned bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited senior institution.

(d) Verification, on the current application for this approach, of completion of a bachelor's level NAEYC-accredited program in child development for birth through age four with a minimum grade point average of least 2.75 on a 4.0 scale.

(4) **Alabama Educator Certification Assessment Program (AECAP).** The applicant must meet the requirements of the AECAP for this approach.

(5) **Degree Level.** The Early Childhood Development Certificate obtained through this approach shall be issued at the bachelor's level.

(6) **Valid Period.** The valid period of the certificate shall be from the date of issuance through the remainder of the same scholastic year, and thereafter, for the next five consecutive scholastic years.

(7) **Professional Educator Certificate.** An individual who holds a valid Early Childhood Development Certificate may seek a bachelor's level Professional Educator Certificate for birth through age four by meeting the following criteria.

(a) Successful completion of the Alabama Special Requirements in Rule 290-3-2-.02(4).

(b) Verification of three full scholastic years of full-time classroom teaching experience, as the teacher of record, in a school approved by the Department of Early Childhood Education.

(c) Successful completion of approved training by the Department of Early Childhood Education.

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Statutory Authority: Ala. Const. Amend. 284, Ala. Code §§16-3-11, 16-23-1 and 16-23-2 (1975).

History: Adopted new, 7-11-17, effective 8-25-17.