

# MEETING LICENSING EDUCATION QUALIFICATIONS WITH EXPERIENCE

## Experience-Based Competency Demonstration

The experience-based competency demonstration is available to providers with two years of experience prior to August 1, 2019.

This experience option is available to all roles with an Early Childhood Education (ECE) Initial Certificate or ECE Short Certificate as the stated education requirement<sup>1</sup> in [Washington Administrative Code \(WAC\) 110-300-0100](#).<sup>2</sup>

## Eligibility Criteria

1. Seven years in a licensed facility (or will have by August 1, 2024)<sup>3</sup> as listed in MERIT
2. Completed all training requirements each year:
  - a. Child Care Basics and 10 in-service (STARS) hours each year
    - This includes years of prior experience through current date in-service requirements as outlined in WAC [0105](#), [0106](#) and [0107](#)
  - b. Maintained compliance with all renewable health and safety training in all years
    - Includes: Safe Sleep, CPR, Bloodborne Pathogens, First Aid and Food Handlers

## What To Do Next?

1. Providers will select how they will meet their education requirements in MERIT (coming summer 2020).
2. No immediate action needed or possible until this is available.
3. This experience option is not available for Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) staff qualifications or Early Achievers professional development points.

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<sup>1</sup> Information about the Washington State ECE Stackable Certificates can be found at: [ececareers.del.wa.gov](http://ececareers.del.wa.gov)

<sup>2</sup> DCYF will recognize an approved experience-based competency demonstration to meet the requirement for “equivalency” as defined by Chapter [110-300-0005](#) WAC for roles requiring an ECE Initial Certificate or ECE Short Certificate.

<sup>3</sup> Family home licensees and center lead teachers have an additional two years to meet the next requirement of a short certificate. These roles will have an additional two years (2026) to complete the short certificate or equivalent.

