

Montessori Frequently Asked Questions



Use this guide to help learn about how a Montessori certificate or credential can help you meet your licensing education requirements.

What Montessori certificates, credentials, and diplomas are approved alternatives for meeting my licensing education requirement?

The following are DCYF-approved alternative credentials for meeting the licensing education requirements for an early learning program:

- Montessori teaching credential issued by a MACTE accredited program
- Montessori teaching credential issued by AMI (American Montessori International)
- Montessori teaching credential issued by AMS (American Montessori Society)

These teaching credentials must be awarded for one of the following age groups:

- Infant and Toddler (Birth - 3)
- Early Childhood (Ages 2.5 - 6)
- Montessori Elementary 1 (Ages 6 - 9)

What is MACTE?

MACTE, Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education, is the only accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education able to award the Montessori Teacher Education Program approval. MACTE does not offer school accreditation.

All MACTE accredited Teacher Education programs are listed on MACTE's website at www.macte.org.

Where can I learn more about my education requirement?

To learn more about your education requirement based on your WAC role in MERIT:

- Review the General Staff Qualifications Chart at https://dcyf.wa.gov/sites/default/files/pubs/EPS_0039.pdf
- Use the Equivalent Options for Education chart to determine what options are available at https://dcyf.wa.gov/sites/default/files/pubs/EPS_0037.pdf

What if I don't see my Montessori certificate, credential, or diploma listed as an equivalent?

If your Montessori certificate or credential is not listed as a DCYF-approved alternative credential and you believe that it should be, the awarding education institution can request a 'Program Review for Staff Qualifications' application by emailing merit@dcyf.wa.gov.



