

## YoungStar and Registry Levels

### Teacher/Director Qualifications

*Rationale:* Teacher education is considered one of the most consistent predictors of quality in an early childhood setting. Staff and provider early childhood education qualifications will be verified by the Wisconsin Registry. The Registry is Wisconsin's Recognition System for the Childhood Care and Education Profession. The Registry verifies educational qualifications using credit-based instruction transcripts. All training is quantified by core knowledge areas as defined by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) or CDA content areas as defined by the Council for Professional Recognition. The Registry awards a certificate verifying that entry level and continuing education requirements defined by the Department of Children and Families have been met.

Information related to what early care and education credit based course offerings are available in regions can be accessed by contacting the individual institution of higher education directly, or by contacting a T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship Counselor at the Wisconsin Early Childhood Association. Credit for prior learning experience may be offered through individual institutions of higher education. Further information related to The Registry Career Levels, professional development opportunities and credit for prior experience is available in the appendix of this document.

In the following two charts for center staff and center directors, points are not cumulative. For each staff qualification chart, a program receives credit for the highest level achieved looking at the composition of the staff education and the center director's education.

Quality Indicators – Lead Teachers Qualifications	Verification	Points Awarded
Lead teachers with CDA's for 50% of classrooms	Registry Level 6	<b>1</b>
Lead Teachers with 6 credits beyond high school for 25% of all classrooms	Registry Level 7	<b>1</b>
Lead Teachers with 6 credits for 50% of all classrooms – <i>Required for 3 star</i>	Registry Level 7	<b>2</b>
Lead Teachers with infant/toddler or inclusion credential for 50% of classrooms or 18 related credits; all other classrooms have a lead teacher with at least 6 credits – <i>Required for 4 star</i>	Registry Level 9	<b>3</b>
Lead Teachers with Administrators or Preschool Credential or 24 related credits for 50% of classrooms; all other classrooms have a lead teacher with at least 6 credits	Registry Level 10	<b>4</b>
Lead Teachers with Associate Degree (AA) for 50% of classrooms and all other classrooms have a lead teacher with at least 6 credits	Registry Level 12	<b>5</b>
Lead Teachers with AA for 50% of classrooms and lead teachers with Registry credentials for the rest of the classrooms	Registry Level 12	<b>6</b>
Lead Teachers with AA for 100% of classrooms – <i>Required for 5 Star</i>	Registry Level 12	<b>7</b>
Lead Teachers with AA for 50% of classrooms and Bachelor Degrees/ or Bachelor's Degree with DPI License for 50% of classrooms	Registry Levels 12- Associate 13 – non-related Bachelors 14 – related Bachelors	<b>8</b>
Lead Teachers with related Bachelor's Degrees for 100% of classrooms or Bachelor's Degree with DPI License or Master's Degree or Doctorate	Registry Level 14, 15, 16 or 17	<b>9</b>

### Center Director Qualifications

Rationale: Research has demonstrated the critical role of the child care director in all centers; they are responsible for the recruitment, hiring, and guidance of teaching staff, and – when necessary – for firing or dismissal of staff. Research shows that accredited centers with well-qualified directors demonstrate higher quality. Directors with degrees operate nearly half of the centers in Wisconsin. This category recognizes a variety of ways to earn points by meeting higher levels of director qualifications.

Required Director Education for 3, 4 and 5 Stars Quality Indicators – Director Qualifications	Verification	Points Awarded
Administrator Credential – <i>Required for 3 Stars</i>	Registry Level 10	<b>1</b>
Associate Degree (related) <b>or</b> Bachelor’s Degree unrelated) – <i>Required for 4 Stars</i>	Registry Level 12	<b>3</b>
Administrator Credential <b>and either</b> Associate Degree (related) <b>or</b> Bachelor’s Degree (unrelated) – <i>Required for 5 Stars</i>	Registry Level 13	<b>4</b>
Bachelor’s Degree (related)	Registry Level 14	<b>5</b>
Bachelor’s Degree (related) and Administrator’s Credential or Master’s Degree or higher	Registry Level 15, 16 or 17	<b>6</b>