



# GATEWAYS TO OPPORTUNITY

## ILLINOIS DIRECTOR CREDENTIAL

The Gateways Illinois Director Credential includes college coursework and credential-approved training in ECE or School-Age Administration.

Below are credential-approved trainings that meet Administrative content for the Illinois Director Credential.

### Aim4Excellence™ Director Credential at National Louis University

Aim4Excellence™ includes nine self-paced modules:

1. Leading the Way
2. Recruiting, Selecting, and Orienting Staff
3. Promoting Peak Performance
4. Managing Program Operations
5. Building a Sound Business Strategy
6. Designing Indoor and Outdoor Environments
7. Supporting Children's Development and Learning
8. Facilitating Responsive Family Engagement
9. Evaluating Program Quality

Modules can be taken for college credit or training clock hours, but recipients are responsible to pay any college fees that would be associated with the credit.

Each module is 16 clock hours or 1 point of Gateways Credential Approved Training.

**Any 3 modules = 3 points of approved training in the Gateways Administrative Content Areas.**

COST: \$200 per Module (must be paid BEFORE starting each module)

#### HAVE A QUESTION?

Help Desk: 1.844.378.2464 | [McCormickCenterHelpDesk@nl.edu](mailto:McCormickCenterHelpDesk@nl.edu)

**Source:** [McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership](#) (link to training)

### ChildCare Education Institute – Director's Certificate

The Director's Certificate, by ChildCare Education Institute (CCEI) provides information for early childhood professionals seeking to further their skills and knowledge in the management of a child care center. The online training program is comprised of five Instructional Units. These units focus on the core areas of competency required to manage a child care center.

Program Length: 60 clock hours.

COST: \$650

**The CCEI Director's Certificate = 3 points of approved training in the Gateways Administrative Content Areas.**

**Source:** <https://www.cceionline.com/directors-certificate/> (link to certificate)

## Care Courses – Trainings for Directors & Administrators

- **Understanding Each Other: Communicating with Families, Staff and Your Community** – 9 clock hours: \$48  
<https://www.carecourses.com/courses/376>
- **Hiring, Supervising, and Motivating Staff - Administration Course Bundle** – 10 clock hours: \$50  
<https://www.carecourses.com/bundle/parentbundle/26>
- **Managing Health and Safety in Child Care** – 12 clock hours: \$52  
<https://www.carecourses.com/courses/352>

Each training = a ½ point of approved training in the Gateways Administrative Content Areas.

**Source:** [https://www.carecourses.com/publicpages/care\\_courses](https://www.carecourses.com/publicpages/care_courses) (link to trainings)

## ed2go Business trainings

<https://www.ed2go.com/courses/business>

Business/administration trainings must be 7.5 clock hours or longer = ½ point

## Administrative content can be met by taking college level course work.

Below are examples of college courses that fully meet administrative content areas:

- ECE 515 Financial and Legal Aspects of Child Care Management
- EDEC 523 Leadership, Advocacy and Supervision of Early Childhood Programs
- FCNS 434 Administration and Supervision of Programs for the Young Child

General business or administrative coursework may receive partial credit. Below are examples of course titles that may earn partial credit in the Gateways Administrative Content Areas:

- MGMT 260 Personnel Management
- BUS 231 Principles of Management
- ED 5007 Foundations of Educational Leadership

**Source:** Gateways to Opportunity/INCCRRA

Click on this [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#) link if you are curious about the difference between the Illinois Director Credential and IDCFS Director qualification requirements.

**DCFS LICENSING STANDARDS FOR DAY CARE CENTERS:** All new child care directors hired on or after July 1, 2017 shall have a minimum of an associate degree in child development or early childhood education, or the equivalent (defined as 64 semester hours in any discipline with a minimum of 21 semester hours of college credit in child development, early childhood education or early childhood special education) and either a Gateways to Opportunity Level I Illinois Director Credential (see 89 Ill. Adm. Code 50.720(b) or 3 semester hours of college credit or **3 points of credential approved training in administration, leadership or management.**

**Note:** Illinois Department of Child and Family Services (IDCFS) licensing representatives determine if you qualify as a teacher, assistant teacher, or director qualified.

Gateways to Opportunity®/INCCRRA staff does not make staffing qualification decisions.

**Important Reminder!** The Illinois Director Credential (IDC) has three levels. The IDC Level I requires an Associate's degree or higher, the IDC Level II requires a Bachelor's degree or higher, and the IDC Level III requires a Graduate degree. **The IDC Level II and IDC Level III go above and beyond the IDC Level I requirements.**