

2017 NAFCC Accreditation Updates

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1. Quality Standards Review

The Quality Standards Review Team has been revising all standards to reflect best practices, particularly in the areas of child assessment and social-emotional development. Standards are additionally being reviewed to clarify language and eliminate gender bias.

How Does This Affect You?-If you are submitting an accreditation application after March 31st, 2018, you will need to demonstrate that you are meeting the updated standards during your observation visit.

2. Ratios

NAFCC is instituting a policy regarding child and adult ratios. The following standards will be **un-starred** safety standards under “supervision.”

1. A qualified assistant is present when there are more than 6 children in care, and no more than 12 children are in care at any one time.
2. When there are 6 or fewer children present, no more than two are under the age of two years. When there are 7 or more children present, no more than 4 are under the age of two years.

NOTE for both standards— whenever present, the childcare provider’s own children under the age of six must be included in the count.

How Does This Affect You?-If you are submitting an accreditation application after March 31st, 2018, you will need to demonstrate that you are meeting the new standards during your observation visit. All starred standards must be met to achieve NAFCC Accreditation. **Because the standard is un-starred, it is possible not to comply and still meet a high enough percentage of standards in Safety and Health to become accredited.**

3. Professional Development

There are 2 significant updates regarding professional development.

- Professional Development Plan
- Updated Training Requirements

Professional Development Plan

As part of the NAFCC Accreditation Application, providers will submit a professional development plan outlining their goals for continued training and education.

How Does This Affect You?-If you are submitting an accreditation application after March 31st, 2018, you will include a Professional Development Plan with your NAFCC Accreditation Application. Providers are currently completing a professional development report as part of their annual update process. Those reports will now reflect progress regarding the initial Professional Development Plan.

Updated Training Requirements

Core Competencies:

Relationships, Interactions, and Guidance. Includes, but is not limited to:

- Nurturing and positive interactions
- Supporting children’s emotional development and self-regulation
- Social-emotional climate
- Family and community engagement

Child Growth and Development. Includes, but is not limited to:

- Physical, social, emotional, cognitive, and language development
- How these interact with one another
- Facilitating child growth and development
- Approaches to learning

Learning Environments and Curriculum. Includes, but is not limited to:

- Curriculum and curriculum planning
- Language and literacy, mathematics, science, technology, engineering, the arts, social studies
- Culture, diversity, and equity inclusiveness
- Dual language learners
- Space, materials, activities, transitions
- Schedules and routines

Health, Safety, and Nutrition-Includes. Includes, but is not limited to:

- Injury prevention
- Minimizing disease
- Allergies, tolerances, and dietary restrictions
- Emergency preparedness
- Physical activity
- Supervision

Assessment and Screening. Includes, but is not limited to:

- Observation, screening and referral, assessment, documentation, interpretation, planning, Implementation
- Setting up goals and objectives for children
- Using and implementing portfolios to assess and inform

Special Needs and Inclusion-Includes. Includes, but is not limited to:

- Children with disabilities
- Gifted and talented
- Children with trauma and toxic stress
- Recognizing academic and behavioral challenges
- Collaborating services
- Environmental access and adaptive equipment
- Developmentally and individually appropriate practice

Professional and Business Practices. Includes, but is not limited to:

- Professional development
- Professional conduct and ethics
- Leadership and advocacy
- Administration using technology

Providers seeking accreditation for the first time or when accreditation has lapsed must complete at least 120 clock hours of documented family child care related education/training. The education/training must be completed within the 3 years prior to submitting an accreditation application. The training must include hours in each core competency and at least 12 hours in 5 of the core competencies. A provider must complete one of the two education/training options for accreditation as follows.

1. Training hours may be met through any combination of the following 4 options:

- a. Workshops of two hours or less (up to 28 hours)
- b. Classes or workshops taught by the candidate (up to 18 contact hours, limited to one time per training topic)
- c. A Masters in Early Childhood Education, Child Development, or related field from an accredited college or university may be submitted for up to 45% of required training hours. A Baccalaureate in Early Childhood Education, Child Development, or related field from an accredited college or university may be submitted for up to 35% of required training hours. An Associate (2 year) degree in Early Childhood Education, Child Development or related field from an accredited college may be submitted for up to 25% of required training hours. A Baccalaureate or higher degree in an unrelated field from an accredited college or university may be submitted for up to 15% of required training hours.

Degree	%	1 st Accreditation	Re-accreditation
Masters-related	45%	54 hours	40.5 hours
Bachelors-related	35%	42 hours	31.5 hours
Associates-related	25%	30 hours	22.5 hours
Bachelors-unrelated	15%	18 hours	13.5 hours

- d. Training from a recognized agency or organization proficient in child care provider education. Recognized training sources include but are not limited to child care resource and referral agencies and family child care associations, early childhood programs such as Head Start, school districts, U.S. military services, state government child care agencies, colleges, universities, vocational and technical schools (no maximum).

College courses-Semester Units (credits)	College courses-Quarter Units (credits)
Worth 15 hours each	Worth 10 hours each

2. The **initial** (not renewal) Family Child Care CDA (Child Development Associate) Credential awarded through the Council for Professional Recognition which is not more than 3 years old will be accepted as documentation of the 120 clock hours of training.

The determination that training meets accreditation criteria is made by NAFCC. Questions regarding the distribution of training hours can be sent, in writing, to NAFCC. Email is preferred: accreditation@nafcc.org

A provider seeking re-accreditation must complete the following. The training must include hours in each of the core competencies.

Complete at least 90 clock hours of documented family child care related education/training through any combination of the following 4 options.

- a. A Masters in Early Childhood Education, Child Development, or related field from an accredited college or university may be submitted for up to 45% of required training hours. A Baccalaureate in Early Childhood Education, Child Development, or related field from an accredited college or university may be submitted for up to 35% of required training hours. An Associate (2 year) degree in Early Childhood Education, Child Development or related field from an accredited college may be submitted for up to 25% of required training hours. A Baccalaureate or higher degree in an unrelated field from an accredited college or university may be submitted for up to 15% of required training hours.

Degree	%	1 st Accreditation (or lapsed accreditation)	Re-accreditation
Masters-related	45%	54 hours	40.5 hours
Bachelors-related	35%	42 hours	31.5 hours
Associates-related	25%	30 hours	22.5 hours
Bachelors+-unrelated	15%	18 hours	13.5 hours

- b. College course from an accredited college or university dated within the current accreditation period covering family child care topics.

College courses-Semester Units (credits)	College courses-Quarter Units (credits)
Worth 15 hours each	Worth 10 hours each

- c. CEU's dated within the current accreditation period covering family child care related topics.
- d. A maximum of 45 clock hours of training dated within the current accreditation period covering family child care related topics. This training must be unduplicated and may not be reflected in any other option of training used for accreditation. This training may be met through the following areas.
- i. Workshops of two hours or less (up to 28 hours)
 - ii. Classes or workshops taught by the candidate (up to 18 contact hours, limited to one time per training topic)
 - iii. Training from a recognized agency or organization proficient in child care provider education. Recognized training sources include but are not limited to child care resource and referral agencies and family child care associations, early childhood programs such as Head Start, school districts, U.S. military services, state government child care agencies, colleges, universities, vocational and technical schools

The determination that training meets accreditation criteria is made by NAFCC. Questions regarding the distribution of training hours can be sent, in writing, to NAFCC. Email is preferred: accreditation@nafcc.org

Training must be recorded on the official NAFCC Training record form. All certificates and verification must be attached to the form. Verification of training must include the name of the provider, the topic of training, the date of the training, the number of hours attended, and if possible, the signature or stamp of the instructor or institution. A course description or syllabus may be requested.

How Does This Affect You?-If you are NOT a re-accrediting provider and are submitting an accreditation application after March 31st, 2018, you will need to meet the updated training requirement (120 hours).

Re-accrediting providers whose most recent accreditation went into effect in 2016 or later (your expiration date is 2019 or later) will be working to meet the updated training requirement for your next application. If your expiration date is 2018 or sooner, you will meet the requirements 2 accreditation processes from now. For example, if your accreditation expires 2/15/18, you are likely applying for re-accreditation in 2017 and do not need to meet this requirement. Then your new accreditation will expire in 2021. At that time, you will need to meet the new requirement. You will be working on obtaining at least 45 hours' worth of CEUs, college courses and/or degrees over the course of 2018, 2019, and 2020 and submitting a total of 90 hours of training.

4. Criminal Background Check Requirements for NAFCC Observers

NAFCC Observers will be required to maintain a favorable state and FBI criminal back ground check not older than 3 years to maintain eligibility to complete NAFCC Accreditation visits.

How Does this Affect You?-NAFCC Accredited Providers will be exempt, as they maintain this requirement as part of their accreditation eligibility.

5. Update Transfer Policy

An accredited provider that is the licensed owner of the program may transfer their accreditation in the instance the program is moved and licensed in a new location.

An accredited co-provider may transfer their accreditation in the instance they move the program and the program is no longer in operation at the original location, with the assumption being the original material and philosophies used to develop the program transfer with it. The co-provider (now just provider) must be the licensed owner in the new location.

How Does this Affect You?-To transfer the accreditation, the provider will complete a transfer workbook, which consists of the self-certified standards. They will also submit the new license and transfer fee. If you are an accredited provider that is an employee of an owner, you will not be eligible to transfer your accreditation.

6. Accreditation Fees

Effective July 1, 2017 accreditation fees will increase.

	Members	Non-members
	Current/New	Current/New
Self-study Enrollment	\$300/\$315	\$425/\$450
Application	\$500/\$525	\$700/\$735
Annual Update	\$150/\$160	\$225/\$240
Package Fee	\$900/\$945	\$1,275/\$1,340

How Does this Affect You?-If you are paying your fees after June 30, 2017 you will follow the new fee structure. If you previously paid fees and show a credit on your account, you will not be required to pay the difference.

7. Annual Updates

Providers receiving accreditation in 2018 will send one annual update 18 months after becoming accredited. Currently providers submit two annual updates; the 1st one 12 months after becoming accredited and the 2nd one 24 months after becoming accredited.