

university may be substituted for up to 400 hours of approved experience.

### Settings

- Child care centers
- School age only child care centers

### Child Care Aide

- Use effective communication (listening, reading, writing) skills for the early care and education environment
- Understand and use a variety of tools used to record and communicate critical child information
- Understand inclusionary practices based on national standards and best practices in early childhood education and school age programs
- Understand the responsibilities of identifying and reporting incidents of child abuse and neglect

### Minimum Requirements

16 years of age or older; receive orientation upon hire

### Public School PreK Teacher

- Understand developmental stages and milestones from infancy through age twelve, major theories of child development, and how children learn
- Understand methods of assessment and observation techniques used to observe and evaluate children
- Understand inclusionary practices based on national standards and best practices in early childhood education and school age programs

- Knows how to meet the requirements of the ADA, establish an inclusive child care environment, and meet the needs of all children in care
- Develop and use strategies for positive child guidance and discipline based on theory and best practices
- Understand the impact of health, nutrition, family, and parenting styles on child growth and development
- Understand the influence of culture and community on child development
- Understand the responsibilities of identifying and reporting incidents of child abuse and neglect

### Minimum Required Education

- Complete an approved teacher preparation program which leads to certification in Early Childhood Education, PreK through grade 3,
- Or complete one of the following options:
  - Earn a bachelor's or higher degree from an institution of higher learning with a major in interdisciplinary studies or a major in an academic field taught in early childhood education including a minimum of 12 semester hours of course work in both mathematics and science and 9 semester hours of course work in both English and social studies
  - Earn a bachelor's or higher degree from an institution of higher learning and complete not less than 48 semester hours of content course work including a minimum of 12 semester hours of course work in both

mathematics and science and 9 semester hours of course work in both English and social studies;

- Complete 27 semester hours of professional education course work taken at an institution of higher education, including a course in each of the following at the appropriate age or grade level: child development, human learning, teaching methodology, inclusion of special needs student populations, assessment of students, processes and acquisition of reading skills, best practices in reading instruction that include the cuing systems of graphophonics, semantics, and syntax, use of reading assessment data to improve instruction, and materials for teaching reading to gain literary experience, to perform a task, and to read for information
- Complete a teaching experience in one of the following ways:
  - Supervised experience in a public or accredited nonpublic school setting at the prekindergarten or kindergarten and primary age/grade level
  - 1 year of successful full-time teaching experience in a public or accredited nonpublic school setting at the prekindergarten, kindergarten, or primary age/grade level

### Settings

- Maryland public school prekindergarten

## Early Childhood Special Educator (Supports and Services in the Natural Environment)

An early childhood special educator may be employed by a local lead agency or local school system which operates a local infants and toddlers program to provide supports and services in the natural environment to infants, toddlers, and preschoolers with disabilities through five) and their families through an extended Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) or an Individual Education Plan (IEP).

- Knowledgeable of services including: speech, occupational and physical therapies, audiology, specialized instruction, and family training
- Knowledgeable about environments and learning experiences that value, affirm, and respect each child's diverse needs and abilities

### Required Education

- Bachelor's degree or higher and meet all requirements for a generic special education certification for Infant/Primary (birth – grade 3)
- Suitable qualifications (a minimum of 120

