

SUMMARY OF NAEYC AND NACCP ACCREDITATION

NAEYC

Overview:

NAEYC Accreditation

National Association for the Education of Young Children

NAEYC Purpose

The purpose of the National Academy of Early Childhood (division of NAEYC) is to improve the quality of care and education provided for young children in all types of preschools, kindergartens, child care centers and school-age child care programs.

NAEYC Accreditation Process

Self-Study Process: The program personnel and parents conduct a self-study to determine how well the program meets the criteria and make needed improvements.

Validation Visit: Trained validators make an onsite visit to verify the accuracy of the program description.

Accreditation Decision: A three-person commission considers the validated program description and makes a final accreditation decision.

NACCP

Overview:

NACCP Accreditation

National Accreditation Commission

NACCP Purpose

The National Accreditation Commission for Early Care and Education Programs (NACCP) is a national accreditation program that was developed for early care and educational programs that are used to promote professionalism and quality in child care.

The NACCP Process

The process includes a self-study component, a validation visit and a review by the NACCP commission for the final accreditation decision.

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Eligibility Requirements

To meet **Eligibility Requirements** for Step 2: Application/Self-Assessment of NAEYC Accreditation, a program must:

- Be center or school-based.
- Serve a minimum of 10 children from birth through kindergarten.
- Be located in the United States or its territories, unless affiliated with United States Department of Defense schools and child development centers/programs.
- Be in operation for at least one year prior to submitting Step 3: Candidacy.
- Be regulated by the appropriate licensing/regulatory body. See **Additional Information on Licensing/Regulation** below for more information about licensing/regulation.
- Be willing to meet each of the NAEYC Early Childhood Program Standards.

Programs must demonstrate that they meet all eligibility requirements in order to be accepted as an Applicant for NAEYC Accreditation. Eligibility requirements must be maintained throughout the NAEYC Accreditation process and the program's five-year accreditation term.

Eligibility Requirements

NACCP provides accreditation only to Child Care Centers. Centers with on-site before and/or after-school care programs for school age children, with the same administration, license and name, must include the school-age program in the NACCP accreditation process.

Stand-alone School Age programs and Family Child Care programs are not eligible for NACCP accreditation.

Early care and education programs applying for accreditation must be in compliance with state and local regulatory agencies.

- Programs must be in continuous operation for at least one year at the time of the validation visit.
- The director must have been in place for a minimum of six (6) months prior to submitting a request for an on-site visit.

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<u>POSITION</u>	<u>REQUIRED EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>REQUIRED EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS</u>
Program Administrator	<p>The designated program Administrator must demonstrate ONE of the following:</p> <p>Have at least a baccalaureate <u>degree</u> AND at least 9 credit-bearing hours of specialized <u>college-level course work</u> in administration, leadership, or management AND at least 24 credit-bearing hours of specialized <u>college-level course work</u> in early childhood education, child development, elementary education or early childhood special education that addresses child development and learning from birth through kindergarten.</p> <p>Documents meeting an appropriate combination of formal education, work experience, and relevant training and credentials as outlined in the <u>alternative pathways table</u>.</p> <p><u>Note</u>: The Candidacy requirement for a program administrator is the same as the qualifications outlined in Criterion 10.A.02, which is a required criterion.</p>	<p>Director Qualifications</p>	<p>On-site administrator responsible for the day-to-day operation of the program has a baccalaureate degree or higher in Early Childhood Education/Child Development OR related field with 12 college credits in early childhood education/child development AND six college credit hours in business administration/program management OR nine CEUs in business administration/program management OR a state approved Director/Administrator Credential</p> <p>AND a minimum one year experience in administration of a child care program and a minimum of two years experience teaching in an early care and education classroom</p>
		Onsite Supervisor	<p>Assistant directors, program coordinators and other staff with supervisory and/or mentor responsibilities. The Onsite Supervisory Staff have an Associate degree or higher in early childhood education/child development OR related field with 12 college credits in early childhood education/child development AND a minimum of two years experience teaching in an early education and care classroom.</p>

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<u>POSITION</u>	<u>REQUIRED EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS</u>
Teacher	<p>75 percent of the teachers must meet ONE of the following:</p> <p>Have a minimum of CDA credential awarded by the <u>Council for Professional Recognition or equivalent</u>.</p> <p>Be working on an <u>associate's or higher degree</u> in early childhood education, child development-family studies, early childhood special education, or elementary education with a concentration in early childhood education or the <u>equivalent</u></p> <p>Have a <u>degree (associate's or higher)</u> outside of the early childhood field and three or more years of work experience in an NAEYC-Accredited program.</p> <p>Have a <u>degree (associate's or higher)</u> outside of the early childhood field with three or more years of work experience in a non-accredited program and at least 30 contact hours of relevant training during that past three years.</p>
Assistant Teacher-Teacher Aide	<p>50 percent of all assistant teachers-teacher aides must meet ONE of the following:</p> <p>Have either a CDA credential awarded by the <u>Council for Professional Recognition or the equivalent</u>.</p> <p>Be working on either a CDA credential awarded by the <u>Council for Professional Recognition or the equivalent</u>. Meet one of the Candidacy requirements for teachers, listed above.</p>

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>REQUIRED EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS</u>
Lead Teacher	<p>Staff member responsible for the direct care and education of the children in a classroom and included in the staff-child ratio. The majority of lead teachers have an Associate degree or higher with 12 college credits in early childhood education/child development AND a minimum of two years experience teaching in an early education and care classroom.</p>
Assistant Teacher - Teacher Aide	<p>All other staff members included in the staff-child ratio who primarily work under the supervision of a lead teacher. The majority of assistant teachers/teacher aides have a CDA Credential.</p>

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To successfully earn accreditation during Step 4: Meeting the Standards, a program must meet the following requirements during a site visit:

- Meet all required criteria.
- Meet each of the 10 NAEYC Early Childhood Program Standards. This is demonstrated by: The program meeting at least 80% of the criteria upon which it is assessed in each standard and each group observed meeting at least 70 percent of criteria upon which it is assessed across all Standards.

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- Programs must have a licensed capacity of 15 or more children and operate on a half-or-full-day basis.

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Fees for NAEYC Accreditation

NAEYC Accreditation fees are spread out over the entire accreditation process, so that you can build the costs into your annual budgets.

Each Step of the Accreditation Process involves a fee based on the number of children in the program.

Programs with 10-60 children completing steps 1-4 would have fees totaling \$1275 (425/200/650) and a yearly reporting fee of

\$300 for the next 4 years

61-120 children: \$1575/350

121-240 children: \$1950/400

241-360 children: \$2350/450

- NAEYC offers [need-based scholarships](#) to subsidize fees at each step of the process.
- [Additional Fees](#) may be applicable if needed to inform decisions regarding candidacy or accreditation, or in the event of visit cancellation.

For more information about NAEYC, call 1-800-424-2460, ext. 360 or visit www.naeyc.org

NACCP

Fees for NACCP Accreditation

NACCP Accreditation fees are spread out over the entire accreditation process, so that you can build the costs into your annual budgets.

Each Step of the Accreditation Process involves a fee based on the number of children in the program. Programs with 15-50 children completing steps 1-3 would have fees totaling \$1360 (360/800/200) including the Annual Report.

51-100 children: \$1585

101-175 children: \$1760

176-250 children: \$1985

251-350 children: \$2235

NACCP Faith-Based Component

The faith-based component of NACCP Accreditation is a response to the many weekday programs seeking to extend their ministry and/or to strengthen the relationship with a sponsoring organization of faith.

The faith-based addendum by itself is not a complete accreditation document. The NACCP Self-Study materials and standards are needed to complete the picture of quality programming and professional management. Embedded in the NACCP faith-based self-study component are truths identified in documents of faith and later confirmed by researchers as to how children grow and learn. The faith-based component adds to this understanding by demonstrating:

- Application of positive early childhood practices in the spiritual development of children.
- Development of a partnership between the weekday program and the sponsoring organization.

Other Fees:

\$25 Electronic (pdf) NACCP Accreditation Manual

\$25 Faith-Based Component

Additional fees for additional services

**Centers in TEXAS will be charge 8.25% sales tax on Self-Study materials only

For more information visit www.naccp.org or call the NACCP office at 1-800-537-1118