

MARC/MCEL Director’s Credential, Draft 3 Framework Components

General Education	Bachelor’s Degree in any field
Teaching & Learning Knowledge and Skills	A minimum of 30 hours of college credit in early childhood education or child development. (see attached rationale for required content areas)
Management & Leadership Knowledge and Skills	A minimum of 9 college credit hours in management, leadership, or administration. Six of the credit hours must be specific to early childhood (see attached rationale for required content areas)
Experience	A minimum of 3,600 hours in early childhood management*
Professional Contributions	A minimum of a 6 (total) professional contributions in at least 3 different achievement areas

** The required hours in early childhood management can be hours as a center director, assistant director, or another management position that includes supervision and oversight.

Kansas Framework Components

Purpose and Rationale

The purpose of the Kansas Director Credential is to provide a pathway to developing the knowledge, skills, and depositions needed to be a successful director in the field of early learning. The Kansas Director Credential is earned through validation of accomplishments in identified areas within the Core Competencies for Early Care and Education Professionals. Activity is required in each of the eight content areas.

1. General Education

Rationale: An individual's general level of education has been shown to be a strong predictor for high quality educational practices both in teaching and in administration.

2. Teaching & Learning Knowledge and Skills

Rationale: In order to be an effective administrator, directors need a strong foundation in the fundamentals of child development and demonstrate knowledge and skills in teaching and learning. Below are the six content areas where college credit coursework is required.

- Child Growth and Development
- Learning Environment and Curriculum
- Child Observation and Assessment
- Families and Communities
- Health, Safety and Nutrition
- Interactions with Children

3. Management & Leadership Knowledge and Skills

Rationale: Effective administration of a center-based early childhood program necessitates a strong understanding of basic business and management knowledge. Below are the two content areas where college credit coursework is required.

- Program Planning and Development
- Professional Development and Leadership

4. Experience Component

Rationale: Experience on-the-job provides a basis for evaluating effective and ineffective practices. The work site is a powerful laboratory for learning.

5. Professional Contributions Component

Rationale: An effective administrator demonstrates leadership through active engagement in professional endeavors beyond the scope of the daily management of a center. Below are several examples of areas where professional contributions can be made.

- Service in a Leadership Role in a Professional Organization
- Presentations/Training
- Advocacy
- Program Improvement
- Writing and Publication
- Research/Grants writing