

Gateways to Opportunity® Credentials

Supplement Application

Family Specialist Credential

For questions and additional information about Gateways Credentials, visit us online at www.ilgateways.com or call (866) 697-8278. The Family Specialist Credential (FSC) is for direct service professionals, who work in relationship with families using a strengths-based model, to promote optimal child and family outcomes that have specific levels of training, education, and experience. *(Please note that the FSC work experience is very different from other credentials and is not met through teaching children but is comparable to social work/social services for families).*

Please check one box below:

- I am applying for the Family Specialist Credential (new applicant)
- I want to Level Advance my current Family Specialist Credential

All applicants must submit:

- Gateways Registry Membership Application or an Information Update Form with this Credential application.
- \$65 Credential Fee.
 - If paying by credit card, visit Gateways Registry website at registry.ilgateways.com.
 - All checks made payable to INCCRRA.
 - **Credential fees are non-refundable and non-transferrable.**
- Official Transcripts from accredited college(s) or university(s).
 - If INCCRRA already has your official transcript on file, you do not need to resend.
 - Official transcripts can be submitted electronically to transcripts@inccrra.org.
 - **Please note:** If you do not have an Associate's degree or higher, you must submit a copy of your high school diploma or GED.
- Work & Practical Experience verification form (must include an attached job description).

Do you have a Bachelors or Graduate degree in Social Work?

- Yes No

If yes, please list graduating institution: _____

How did you first learn about Gateways to Opportunity Credentials? *(check only one)*

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Center Director | <input type="radio"/> Local Child Care Resource & Referral | <input type="radio"/> Conference/Presentation |
| <input type="radio"/> Mailing | <input type="radio"/> Co-Worker | <input type="radio"/> Provider Association |
| <input type="radio"/> Website/Social Networking | <input type="radio"/> Professional Development Advisor (PDA) | <input type="radio"/> Other _____ |

APPLICANT SIGNATURE

I verify that I have read this paragraph and that all information provided is true and accurate. By signing below I understand that INCCRRA will use my signature as authorization to verify any information and documents I have submitted. I understand that the Illinois Department of Human Services may use my name and application information for research/evaluation purposes. I understand that any false or misleading statements or subsequent documentation may constitute grounds for denial or subsequent withdrawal of any Gateways to Opportunity Credential. *Additional information will be required.*

Print Name: _____

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail completed application to: INCCRRA/Applications • 1226 Towanda Plaza • Bloomington, IL 61701

Gateways Family Specialist Credential

Work & Practical Experience—Verification Form

Please complete this form to validate your work experience providing direct service to families. **Use a separate form for each position.** Attach a job description from your employer and write 3 or 4 sentences that describes your **daily direct contact with families** that promote optimal child and family outcomes. If you have a Bachelors or Graduate degree in Social Work with an internship of 200 hours or more, please complete **Step 1, sign** and **return**.

Step 1: Personal Information

Name: _____ Registry Member ID: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Step 2: Work Experience:

Position: _____ Start Date: _____ End Date: _____

Total hours worked providing direct services to families: _____
(Hours Per Week x By Weeks Per Year x By Number Of Years)

Step 3: Family Specialist Experience Verification

Please provide the name and contact information for someone that could verify your experience providing direct services to families that promote optimal child and family outcomes. (Examples include: director, professional colleagues or previous employers.) Please note: we may contact to verify.

Contact Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Affiliation to applicant (*How is this contact knowledgeable about your experience providing direct services to families?*):

Participant Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

By signing the above, I verify that the information provided herein is accurate and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand false or misleading statements or subsequent documentation may constitute grounds for denial of a Gateways to Opportunity Credential.

Information Update Form

SECTION 1 - CONTACT / PERSONAL INFORMATION

The Information Update form is used to update your information. Please fill out the Information Update Form and the corresponding program supplement to participate in a Gateways program. For questions and additional information please call (866) 697-8278 or visit us at www.ilgateways.com.

First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____

Last Name: _____

Has your name changed in the last 12 months? Yes No If yes, list previous name: _____

Person ID/Registry Member ID: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

County: _____ Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Please contact me at my: Home Address/Phone Work Address/Phone (if completing section 2)

SECTION 2 – CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Please complete this section only if you are currently in part-time or full-time paid employment in the fields of Early Care and Education, School-Age, Youth Development, or Early Childhood Family Support. **If this does not apply to you, please skip this section.**

Employer Business Name: _____

Work Site Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

County: _____

Work Phone: _____ Work Fax: _____

Type of Program: (check only one)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Child Care Center | <input type="radio"/> School-Age/Youth Development Program Only |
| <input type="radio"/> Family Child Care Home | <input type="radio"/> Public or Private School |
| <input type="radio"/> Group Family Child Care Home | <input type="radio"/> Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) |
| <input type="radio"/> Head Start | <input type="radio"/> Other _____ |

This program is: Licensed by Illinois Department of Children and Family Services* License-Exempt N/A

*If Licensed, License ID number: _____ Licensed Capacity: _____

Date Employment Began: *(with this employer)* _____

Current Position Title: _____ Position Code: _____

Current Position Start Date: _____ *(refer to below)*

Hours worked per week: _____ Weeks worked per year: _____

Position Codes <i>(to be used above)</i>	
Direct Services to Children	
1. Director and/or Administrator (one-site)	10. Group Family Child Care Provider
2. Assistant Director	11. Group Family Child Care Assistant
3. Director/Teacher	12. School-Age Child Care Teacher
4. Teacher	13. School-Age Child Care Assistant
5. Assistant Teacher	14. Youth Development Practitioner
6. Teacher Aide (Preschool for All)	15. Other Direct Service
7. Substitute/Floater	23. Home Visitors
8. Family Child Care Provider	24. Home Visitor Supervisor
9. Family Child Care Assistant	25. Family, Friend, or Neighbor Caregiver
Indirect Services	
16. Director/Administrator (multi-site)	20. Education/Curriculum Coordinator
17. CCR&R Staff	21. Consultant
18. Higher Education Faculty/Staff	22. Other Indirect Services
19. Trainer	

Ages of Children You Currently Work With *(Family Child Care check all that apply, others check only one.)*

- Infant *(6 wks-14 months)*
- Toddler *(15-23 months)*
- Twos *(24-35 months)*
- Preschool *(3-5 years)*
- School-Age *(K-12 years)*
- Youth *(13-21 years)*
- Not Applicable *(N/A)*

SECTION 3 – APPLICANT SIGNATURE

I verify that all information provided is true and accurate. I understand that INCCRRA or the Illinois Department of Human Services may use my information for research/evaluation purposes. For more information, please view the Privacy Policy at: www.ilgateways.com. I also understand that I will become a member of the Gateways to Opportunity Registry. I understand that periodically a **limited** amount of my Registry record information may be released to IDCF, IDHS, OECD and/or my program administrator in order to verify compliance with State requirements and/or ExceleRate Illinois standards. This information would be related to my Registry membership being current; number of training hours completed; and/or status or completion of certain training, formal education or credentials as required by the State and/or ExceleRate.

Print Name: _____

Applicant Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

If applicant is under the age of 18, a parent or legal guardian signature is required below.

Print Name: _____

Parent/Legal Guardian: _____ **Date:** _____

Mail completed application to: INCCRRA/Applications • 1226 Towanda Plaza • Bloomington, IL 61701