

Gateways to Opportunity® School-Age & Youth Development Credential Framework

SAYD Levels (5 through 16 years)	Education Requirements	Education and Training in School-Age & Youth Development	Work and Practical Experience in School-Age & Youth Development	Professional Contributions in School-Age & Youth Development
Level 5	Bachelor's Degree	30 points in SAYD Content Areas (<i>minimum of 1 point in each area</i>) – Personal & Professional Development, Program & Agency Governance & Function, Advocacy & Policy, Human Growth & Development, Health, Safety, & Well-Being, Observation & Assessment, Curriculum or Program Design, Interactions, Relationships & Environments, Family & Community Relationships 9 points may come from Credential approved training	180 hours SAYD supervised experience AND/OR 1000 hours of SAYD work experience	Required at Renewal
A Professional Educator License with endorsement in Elementary Education meets these requirements				
Level 4	Associate's Degree or 60+ semester hours with (9 semester hours of English, Social Science, and any Math or Science) (These 9 hours must be credit bearing and nondevelopmental 100 level +)	18 points in SAYD Content Areas (<i>minimum of 1 point in each area</i>) – Personal & Professional Development, Program & Agency Governance & Function, Advocacy & Policy, Human Growth & Development, Health, Safety, & Well-Being, Observation & Assessment, Curriculum or Program Design, Interactions, Relationships & Environments, Family & Community Relationships 6 points may come from Credential approved training	100 hours SAYD supervised experience AND/OR 500 hours of SAYD work experience	Required at Renewal
Level 3	High School Diploma or GED and 6 semester hours (in 2 areas - English, Social Science, any Math or Science) (These 6 hours must be credit bearing and nondevelopmental 100 level +)	9 points in SAYD Content Areas (<i>minimum of 1 point in each area</i>) – Human Growth & Development, Health, Safety, & Well-Being, Curriculum or Program Design, Interactions, Relationships & Environments, Family & Community Relationships 6 points may come from Credential approved training	10 hours SAYD supervised experience AND/OR 400 hours of SAYD work experience	Required at Renewal
1 additional point is required from General or Content Area specific education				
Level 2	High School Diploma or GED	6 points* in SAYD Content Areas (<i>must have a minimum of 1 point in Human Growth & Development and 1 point in Curriculum or Program Design</i>) or 3 points from SAYD coursework or training* and the SAYD Credential Level 1 *3 points may be from Credential approved training	5 hours of SAYD observation AND/OR 200 hours of SAYD work experience	Required at Renewal
Level 1	Gateways School-Age & Youth Development Credential Level 1 is awarded through completion of 48 hour training.			

Guide: A point is equivalent to one semester hour of college credit.

Gateways School-Age & Youth Development Credential – Guidelines

This guideline sheet provides additional information regarding the Gateways Credential requirements. Information is also available on the Gateways to Opportunity website at www.ilgateways.com.

Education and Training in School-Age & Youth Development:

SAYD Level 2:

- A minimum of one point is required in both: Human Growth & Development and Curriculum or Program Design.
- SAYD Credential Level 2 can be earned through several pathways:
 - 6 points of SAYD coursework
 - 3 points of SAYD coursework plus 3 points of Credential approved training
 - 3 points of SAYD coursework or Credential approved training plus the SAYD Credential Level 1

SAYD Level 3:

- In addition to the point requirements for Level 2, one point is required in each: Health, Safety, & Well-Being, Interactions, Relationships, & Environments and Family & Community Relationships.
- One additional point is required from General or Content Area specific education.*
- General Education requirements include 6 semester hours in two of the four different areas.

SAYD Level 4:

- In addition to the point requirements for Levels 2 & 3, one point is required in each: Observation & Assessment, Personal & Professional Development, Program & Agency Governance & Function, and Advocacy & Policy.
- General Education requirements include 9 semester hours in three of the four different areas.

SAYD Level 5:

- You must meet the points listed in Level 2, 3, and 4 with a total of 30 points.

General Credential Information:

- One point is equivalent to 1 semester hour of college coursework, 1.5 quarter hours of college coursework, and/or 15 consecutive contact hours of training.
- A training must be at least 7.5 consecutive contact hours in length, cover one Content Area, and contain an assessment component in order to be considered toward a Gateways Credential. Each 7.5 consecutive contact hour training may be worth ½ of a point.
- Points for a Gateways Credential may be earned through Assessment of Prior Learning (APL). This process includes submitting documentation directly to Credential program staff, including an artifact collection and a seven-point reflection on each collection. An additional fee may be assessed for this process.
- Contact your local higher education institution to inquire about receiving Prior Learning Assessment of college credit.
- Gateways Credentials are valid for five years and need to be renewed. Renewal requirements for the School-Age & Youth Development Credential have not been determined.

**The one additional point at Level 3 helps meet program-specific, 16-semester hour Federal Financial Aid requirements.*