

Gateways to Opportunity® Technical Assistance (TA) Framework

Technical Assistance Credential Levels	General Education Requirements	Education and Training in Early Childhood/ School-Age	Education and Training in Early Childhood/ School-Age-coaching, mentoring, or technical assistance	Work and Practical Experience in Early Childhood/ School-Age	Work and Practical Experience in Early Childhood/ School-Age-coaching, mentoring, or technical assistance	Professional Contributions in Early Childhood/ School-Age
Level 6	Graduate Degree	30 points in the Gateways to Opportunity Content Areas Maximum of 12 points from Credential approved training	21 points in the Gateways to Opportunity TA Content Areas	4,500 hours of Early Childhood/School-Age supervised and/or work experience	2,000 hours of coaching mentoring, or technical assistance supervised and/or work experience	Required at Renewal
Level 5	Bachelor's Degree	*24 points in the Gateways to Opportunity Content Areas Maximum of 9 points from Credential approved training	15 points in the Gateways to Opportunity TA Content Areas	4,500 hours of Early Childhood/School-Age supervised and/or work experience	2,000 hours of coaching mentoring, or technical assistance supervised and/or work experience	Required at Renewal
Level 4	Associate's Degree	**21 points in the Gateways to Opportunity Content Areas Maximum of 6 points from Credential approved training	9 points in the Gateways to Opportunity TA Content Areas	4,500 hours of Early Childhood/School-Age supervised and/or work experience	2,000 hours of coaching mentoring, or technical assistance supervised and/or work experience	Required at Renewal

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

*A Professional Educator License with Early Childhood Endorsement or ECE Credential Level 5 meets these requirements.

**The ECE Credential Level 4 meets these requirements.

Gateways Technical Assistance Credential – Guidelines

The Gateways Technical Assistance (TA) Credential is designed for professionals working in a variety of roles that relate to relationship-based professional development. For example: technical assistance providers, coaches, mentors, and professional development advisors.

NAEYC Definitions:

Technical Assistance (TA) is the provision of targeted and customized supports by a professional(s) with subject matter and adult learning knowledge and skills to develop or strengthen processes, knowledge application, or implementation of services by recipients.

Mentoring is a relationship-based process between colleagues in similar professional roles, with a more-experienced individual with adult learning knowledge and skills, the mentor, providing guidance and example to the less-experienced protégé or mentee. Mentoring is intended to increase an individual's personal or professional capacity, resulting in greater professional effectiveness.

Coaching is a relationship-based process led by an expert with specialized and adult learning knowledge and skills, who often serves in a different professional role than the recipient(s). Coaching is designed to build capacity for specific professional dispositions, skills, and behaviors and is focused on goal-setting and achievement for an individual or group.

In addition to the seven Gateways Content Areas, the Technical Assistance Credential has seven Content Areas specific to coaching, mentoring, and technical assistance:

1. Leadership and Professional Skills
2. Adult Learning
3. Collaborative Relationships
4. Reflective Practice
5. Communication
6. Assessment and Planning
7. Change Process

TA Credential Level 4:

- A minimum of 1 point in all ECE/School-Age Content Areas for a total of 21 points OR the Gateways ECE Credential Level 4.
- In addition, a minimum of 1 point in four out of the seven content areas specific to coaching, mentoring, and technical assistance with 1 point required in Reflective Practice for a total of 9 points.

TA Credential Level 5:

- A minimum of 1.5 points in all ECE/School-Age Content Areas for a total of 24 points OR the Gateways ECE Credential Level 5 OR a valid Professional Educator License with Early Childhood Endorsement.
- In addition, a minimum of 1 point in all seven content areas specific to coaching, mentoring, and technical assistance with a total of 15 points.

TA Credential Level 6:

- A minimum of 2 points in all ECE/School-Age Content Areas for a total of 30 points.
- In addition, a minimum of 1.5 points in all seven content areas specific to coaching, mentoring, and technical assistance for a total of 21 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.
- Gateways Credentials are valid for five years and need to be renewed. Renewal requirements for the Technical Assistance Credential have not been determined.