

Educational Requirements:

Q: Who has to take the preservice/orientation training?

A: All caregivers, teachers & directors who is involved in the direct care of a child.

Q: When does the preservice/orientation training have to be completed?

A: All center directors, on-site supervisors, & persons designated lead must complete the pre-service/orientation training within 90 days of October 1, 2016.

50% of all existing staff must have the pre-service/orientation training within 90 days of October 1, 2016.

After October 1, 2016, all new staff members will have 90 days form hire to complete the pre-service/orientation training.

Q: What does the preservice/orientation training cover?

A: As mandated by federal law, the following content areas are covered in the preservice training:

- Prevention & control of infectious disease,
- Prevention of SIDS & use of safe sleeping practices,
- Administration of medication
- Prevention of & response to emergencies due to food & allergic reactions.
- Building & physical premises safety,
- Prevention of shaken baby syndrome & abusive head trauma,
- Emergency preparedness & response planning,
- Handling & storage of hazardous materials,
- Precautions in transporting children.

The Iowa specific training being developed will include information on diversity & working with homeless children & families.

Q: How can we take the preservice/orientation training?

A: It will be available both online and in person.

Q: Does the preservice/orientation training count for professional development hours?

A: Preservice/orientation training may count towards your professional development hours at the initial time it is taken.

Q: Are required training hours changing?

A: The Department of Human Services is submitting administrative rule changes recommending that any variance between staff employed “more than 20 hours” vs. “less than 20 hours” is removed. The Department has proposed that all center staff, outside of additional Director or on-site supervisor requirements, will be required to have 10 professional development training hours the first year & 6 professional development hours each consecutive year.

Q: Is the pre-service training considered “group” or self-study” training hours?

A: The Department is submitting administrative rule changes recommending that the difference between group and self-study training be taken out. This way, all training that meets requirements will count towards professional development hours regardless of the type of setting the training is provided in.