

ADOPTED



NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
AMENDMENT
House Bill 309

AMENDMENT NO. **A1**
(to be filled in by
Principal Clerk)

H309-ACI-28 [v.4]

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Amends Title [NO]
Second Edition

Date .2025

Senator Burgin

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2 moves to amend the bill on page 5, lines 47 through 51, by rewriting the lines to read:

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4 ""SECTION 8.(a1) In modifying the quality rating improvement system (ORIS), the
5 Division of Child Development and Early Education shall ensure a North Carolina Early
6 Childhood Credential based on five years of work experience in a licensed child care facility in
7 this State is treated as equivalent to when that credential is earned through other pathways for
8 purposes of awarding a star rating."";

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11 and on page 7, line 16, by rewriting the line to read:

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13 "child care centers shall be no more ~~less stringent~~ than as follows:";

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16 and on page 9, line 8, through page 10, line 7, by rewriting the lines to read:

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18 "SECTION 5.(c) G.S. 110-91(8), as amended by Section 4(d) of this act, reads as
19 rewritten:

- 20 "(8) Qualifications for Staff. – Qualifications for child care staff are as follows:
- 21 a. All child care center administrators shall be at least 21 years of age.
- 22 All child care center administrators shall have the North Carolina
- 23 Early Childhood Administration Credential or its equivalent as
- 24 determined by the ~~Department~~ Department of the School-Age
- 25 Administration Credential when exclusively providing school-age
- 26 child care. All child care administrators performing administrative
- 27 duties as of the date this act becomes law and child care administrators
- 28 who assume administrative duties at any time after this act becomes
- 29 law and until September 1, 1998, shall obtain the required credential
- 30 by September 1, 2000. Child care administrators who assume
- 31 administrative duties after September 1, 1998, shall begin working
- 32 toward the completion of the North Carolina Early Childhood



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- Administration Credential or its ~~equivalent~~ equivalent, or the School-Age Administration Credential when exclusively providing school-age child care, within six months after assuming administrative duties and shall complete the credential or its equivalent within two years after beginning work to complete the credential. Each child care center shall be under the direction or supervision of a person meeting these requirements. All staff counted toward meeting the required staff-child ratio shall be at least 16 years of age, provided that persons younger than 18 years of age work under the direct supervision of a credentialed staff person who is at least 21 years of age.
- b. All lead teachers in a child care center shall have at least a North Carolina Early Childhood Credential or its equivalent as determined by the Department. Lead teachers shall either (i) be enrolled in the North Carolina Early Childhood Credential coursework or its equivalent as determined by the Department within six months after becoming employed as a lead teacher or within six months after this act becomes law, whichever is later, and shall complete the credential or its equivalent within 18 months after enrollment or (ii) have a minimum of five years of documented experience teaching in a licensed child care facility in this State which shall be deemed equivalent to the North Carolina Early Childhood Credential.
- c. For child care centers licensed to care for 200 or more children, the Department, in collaboration with the North Carolina Institute for Early Childhood Professional Development, shall establish categories to recognize the levels of education achieved by child care center administrators and teachers who perform administrative functions. The Department shall use these categories to establish appropriate staffing based on the size of the center and the individual staff responsibilities.
- d. Effective January 1, 1998, an operator of a licensed family child care home shall be at least 21 years old and have a high school diploma or its equivalent. Operators of a family child care home licensed prior to January 1, 1998, shall be at least 18 years of age and literate. Literate is defined as understanding licensing requirements and having the ability to communicate with the family and relevant emergency personnel. Any operator of a licensed family child care home shall be the person on-site providing child care.
- e. The Commission shall adopt standards to establish appropriate qualifications for all staff in child care centers. These standards shall reflect training, experience, education and credentialing and shall be appropriate for the size center and the level of individual staff responsibilities. It is the intent of this provision to guarantee that all children in child care are cared for by qualified people. Pursuant to

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G.S. 110-106, no requirements may interfere with the teachings or doctrine of any established religious organization. The staff qualification requirements of this subdivision do not apply to religious-sponsored child care facilities pursuant to G.S. 110-106."".

SIGNED


Amendment Sponsor

SIGNED

Committee Chair if Senate Committee Amendment

ADOPTED

FAILED

TABLED

**The official copy of this document, with signatures
and vote information, is available in the
Senate Principal Clerk's Office**