



Child Care Guidance Certification

Through a cooperative effort of the Arkansas Department of Human Services Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education and the Family and Consumer Sciences group within the Division of Career and Technical Education, criteria for certifying students participating in the Child Care Guidance Management and Services Program of Study has been defined. Three levels of certification have been approved for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 school years. These levels are:

- Child Care Aide
- Child Care Assistant
- Childcare Teacher

Criteria for each level of certification is provided in [the attached document](#).

This process has changed so that the student requests their certification, not the teacher. The student will need to complete 40 hours of practicum that will be documented in a log. ([Downloadable Example Practicum log](#)). **Babysitting at home or during the summer is not a qualified lab experience.**

To receive the Child Care Certificate, the following steps are required:

- Complete the full Human and Social Services program of study as described [here](#). Level 3 course must be Child Care Guidance, Management and Services.
- Complete at least 40 hours of practicum in the field.

How to apply:

- Complete the online application: [Child Care Certification Application](#)
- Upload a copy of student transcript (unofficial is acceptable) with completed program of study coursework.
- Upload field experience log for documentation of at least 40 hours of practicum.

Once approved, student will receive an electronic copy of the appropriate Child Care certificate.