NC CHILD CARE RULE 09 .3012 NC PRE-K TEACHER EDUCATION, LICENSURE AND CREDENTIALS

(a) All teachers shall hold, or be working toward a North Carolina (NC) Birth through Kindergarten (BK) Standard Professional II or Preschool Add-on license. Teachers working toward the required education and license shall hold a minimum of a BA/BS degree and the following requirements:

1. NC Initial Provisional Lateral Entry BK License, or
2. A North Carolina K-6 license and a provisional Preschool Add-on license, or
3. Another North Carolina or other state's license and an NC Provisional BK license, or
4. A BA/BS degree in early childhood education, child development, or a related field, and be eligible for a NC Initial Provisional Lateral Entry BK License.

(b) All Pre-K teachers must be enrolled with the Early Educator Support, Licensure & Professional Development Unit of the Division of Child Development and Early Education.

(c) Pre-K teachers with a BA/BS degree shall make progress toward BK licensure by completing a minimum of six documented semester hours per year, and achieve the BK license within three years. The site-level administrator shall maintain documentation available for review by the Division, of the progress toward the required standard.

History Note: Authority G.S. 110-85; 110-88; S.L. 2011-145, s. 10.7(a); Eff. November 1, 2012.

NC PRE-K LEAD TEACHER EMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION CHART

### TEACHER ELIGIBILITY OPTIONS

#### OPTION I:

**EXISTING LICENSURE***

*Teacher currently holds an active or expired Professional Educator's License*

- IF the prospective applicant holds at least one of the following:
  - NC Continuing License (NC BK SPII License)
  - NC Continuing BK or Pre-K/K Add-on License (SPII BK or Pre-K/K Add-on License)
  - NC Continuing Provisional BK or Pre-K/K Add-on License (SPII Provisional BK or Pre-K/K Add-on License)
  - NC Initial License (BK SPII License)
  - NC Initial BK or Pre-K/K Add-on License (NC SPI License BK or Pre-K/K Add-on License)
  - NC Initial Provisional BK or Pre-K/K Add-on License (NC SPI - Provisional BK or Pre-K/K Add-on License)
  - Provisional Lateral Entry BK License (must be current, expired Lateral Entry BK license not applicable)
  - Other NC Teaching License, including but not limited to, Special Education, Elementary Education K-6, Multi-disciplinary Studies, Family and Consumer Science-Child Development
  - Out-of-State License, including but not limited to, Early Childhood Education, Special Education, Elementary Education K-6, Multi-disciplinary Studies, Family and Consumer Science-Child Development
  - International Licensure or Certification (contact EESLPD Unit at 919-527-6676)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Eligibility Determination Result(s):</th>
<th>The teacher is ELIGIBLE.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| NEXT STEP(S): | Submit an Enrollment Application Form [http://ncchildcare.nc.gov/pdf_forms/NCPre-K_EESLPD_EnrollmentForm.pdf](http://ncchildcare.nc.gov/pdf_forms/NCPre-K_EESLPD_EnrollmentForm.pdf) to the EESLPD Unit via US Mail |
### OPTION II (a):

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND**
*Teacher has completed a BA/BS degree or higher but does not hold a Professional Educator’s License*

- IF the prospective applicant has completed a BA/BS Degree at a regionally accredited college/university in **one** of the following Early Childhood Education fields of study:
  - Birth-through-Kindergarten (without licensure)
  - Child Development
  - Child and Family Development
  - Early Childhood Education

  **AND**
  - Earned an overall GPA of 2.50* or higher

**Eligibility Determination Result(s):**
The teacher is **ELIGIBLE to HOLD a NC Lateral Entry BK License.**

**NEXT STEP(S):**
Retrieve an Enrollment Application Form from [http://ncchildcare.nc.gov/pdf_forms/NCPre-K_EESLPD_EnrollmentForm.pdf](http://ncchildcare.nc.gov/pdf_forms/NCPre-K_EESLPD_EnrollmentForm.pdf) AND submit to the EESLPD Unit via US Mail to initiate the licensure process.

*Contact the EESLPD Unit at 919-527-6676 if the overall GPA is less than 2.50*

### OPTION II (b):

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND**
*Teacher has completed a BA/BS degree or higher but does not hold a Professional Educator’s License*

- IF the prospective applicant has completed a BA/BS Degree at a regionally accredited college/university in **one** of the following Related Early Childhood Education fields of study:
  - Psychology
  - Family and Child Studies
  - Human Development and Family Studies
  - Human Growth and Development
  - Human Growth and Family Studies

  **AND**
  - Earned an overall GPA of 2.50* or higher

**Eligibility Determination Result(s):**
The teacher is **ELIGIBLE to HOLD a NC Lateral Entry BK License.**

**NEXT STEP(S):**
Submit an Enrollment Application Form [http://ncchildcare.nc.gov/pdf_forms/NCPre-K_EESLPD_EnrollmentForm.pdf](http://ncchildcare.nc.gov/pdf_forms/NCPre-K_EESLPD_EnrollmentForm.pdf) to the EESLPD Unit via US Mail to initiate the licensure process.

*Contact the EESLPD Unit at 919-527-6676 if the overall GPA is less than 2.50*
## OPTION II (c): EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

**IF the prospective applicant meets one or more of the criteria below, contact an EESLPD Unit Licensure Specialist* for further assistance:**

Holds a **BA/BS degree** in one of the following an **unrelated** field of study:
- Elementary Education
- Special Education
- Human Services or Social Work
- Sociology
- Math
- Science
- Language Arts
- Social Studies
- Other: _____________________________________

- Has completed a minimum of **24 semester hours** in early childhood education or child development coursework through a regionally accredited college or university with an overall 2.50 GPA or higher.

- Has **completed a Plan of Study** or enrolled to complete coursework as defined in a Plan of Study issued by an approved BK Teacher Education Program or Regional Alternative Licensing Center (RALC).

- Has been **issued a Plan of Study** by an accredited NC university or college with an approved BK Teacher Education Program or Plan of Study issued by the NC Regional Alternative Licensing Center (RALC).

- Holds an **Associate Degree** in Early Childhood Education.

### Eligibility Determination Result(s)

**AND**

**NEXT STEP(S)**

*See the map on page 4 to contact the EESLPD Unit Licensure Specialist assigned to your county for additional assistance with teacher eligibility determination and guidance for prospective teachers.*
Division of Child Development and Early Education
Early Education Branch
Early Educator Support, Licensure, and Professional Development (EESLPD) Unit

Michael Viar, Manager EESLPD Unit, michael.viar@dhhs.nc.gov
Gordon Millspaugh, BK License and Research Consultant, gordon.millspaugh@dhhs.nc.gov
Tamiah Pittman, Intake and Enrollment Specialist, tamiah.pittman@dhhs.nc.gov

* All licensure questions should be directed to the appropriate BK Licensure Specialist