# Reciprocation

Eligible programs that are accredited through state or national accreditation systems or have standards set by an agency that may be equal or exceed Better Beginnings are eligible for full or partial reciprocation and given certification at levels that the Office of Early Chidlhood determines. The following are some examples of approved accreditation systems:

* Arkansas Better Chance (ABC)
* American Camping Association (ACA)
* American Montessori Society (AMS)
* COGNIA
* The Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities: Child and Youth Services Standards (CARF)
* Early Head Start
* Early Intervention Day Treatment (EIDT)
* Head Start
* International Montessori Council (IMC)
* National Afterschool Association (NAA)
* National Accreditation Commission (NAC)
* National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)
* National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC)
* Arkansas School Districts owned facilities (non-ABC, -HS, or -EHS)
* The Joint Commission

Other Accreditation systems may be considered upon review and approval by the Better Beginnings Program Administrator.

# Reciprocation Requirements

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| Accrediting agency | Level of Reciprocation | Due at renewal date | Partial reciprocation also requires |
| NAA | Full reciprocation at Level 6 | Application  Proof of accreditation dates | NA |
| NAFCC | Full reciprocation at Level 6 | Application  Proof of accreditation dates | NA |
| NAEYC | Full reciprocation at Level 6 | Application  Proof of accreditation dates | NA |
| ABC\*  AR school district-owned | Full reciprocation Level 2  Full reciprocation for Levels 3-6 at  the appropriate level for ERS score | Application  Most recent ERS average (Levels 3-6) | NA |
| Early Head  Start\* | Full reciprocation at the  appropriate level for ITERS score | Application  Most recent ITERS average | NA |
| Head Start\* | Full reciprocation at Level 4  Full reciprocation at Level 5, and 6 with \*\*required CLASS scores | Application  Most recent CLASS report | NA |
| NAC | Full reciprocation at Level 4  Partial reciprocation at Level 5-6 | Application  Proof of accreditation dates | NA  Ratios will be checked for Levels 5-6 |
| COGNIA (EL) | Full reciprocation at Level 3  Partial reciprocation Levels 4-6 | Application  Proof of accreditation dates | NA  Ratios will be checked for Levels 4-6 |
| COGNIA  (not EL specific) | Partial reciprocation | Application  Proof of accreditation dates | All requirements (except PAS) |
| AMS | Full reciprocation at Level 3  Partial reciprocation at Level 4-6 | Application  Proof of accreditation dates | NA  Ratios will be checked for Levels 4-6 |
| IMC | Full reciprocation at Level 3  Partial reciprocation at Level 4-6 | Application  Proof of accreditation dates | NA  Ratios will be checked for Levels 4-6 |
| ACA | Full reciprocation at Level 4  Partial Reciprocation at Levels 5-6 | Application  Proof of accreditation dates | ERS and ratios required at Levels 5-6 |
| CARF | Full reciprocation at Level 3  Partial reciprocation at Levels 4-6 | Application  Proof of accreditation dates | All requirements (except PAS) for  Levels 4-6 |
| EIDT | Full Reciprocation at Level 2  Partial reciprocation at Levels 3-6 | Application at Level 2 | All requirements (except PAS) for  Levels 3-6 |
| AR school district owned\*\*\*  (non-ABC) | Full reciprocation Level 2  Full reciprocation for Levels 3-6 at  the appropriate level for ERS/YPQI scores | Application  Most recent ERS reports |  |
| Institutes of Higher Education | Partial reciprocation | Application at Level 2 | All requirements (except PAS) |
| The Joint Commission | Partial reciprocation | Application  Proof of accreditation dates | All requirements (except PAS) |

\*Classrooms under the same license that are not ABC, EHS, or HS are required to have ERS assessments. Submit an

*Intent to Apply form* to request assessments.

\*\*The following CLASS scores are required for Head Start Programs:

Level 5: Emotional Support 6, Classroom Organization 6, Instructional Support 3. Level 6: Scores greater than those that are required for level 5.

\*\*\*School districts include charter schools and local education agencies. Privately owned facilities that are operated on a school campus are not reciprocated.