

Reciprocity

Eligible programs that are accredited through state or national accreditation systems or have standards set by funding agency that may be equal or exceed Better Beginnings are eligible for full or partial reciprocity and given certification at levels that are determined by the Division. 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
- 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)

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

Reciprocation Requirements

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*	Full reciprocation at the appropriate level for ERS score	Application Most recent ERS scores	NA
Early Head Start*	Full reciprocation at the appropriate level for ITERS score	Application Most recent ITERS report	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	Full reciprocation at Level 3 Partial reciprocation Levels 4-6	Application Proof of accreditation dates	NA Ratios will be checked for Levels 4-6
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
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 at the appropriate level for ERS/YPQI assessment scores	Application Most recent ERS reports	

*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.

***Privately owned facilities that are operated on a school campus are not reciprocated.