

## 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 Childhood 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
- 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.

## Reciprocity Requirements

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

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