

Attachment 1

Texas Rising Star Workgroup Recommendations for Assessor and Mentor Qualifications

Qualifications are presented for both Texas Rising Star (TRS) assessors and mentors, without distinction between the roles.

Minimum Education

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited four-year college or university in early childhood education, child development, special education, child psychology, educational psychology, elementary education, or family consumer science;
- Bachelor's degree from an accredited four-year college or university with at least 18 credit hours in early childhood education, child development, special education, child psychology, educational psychology, elementary education, or family consumer science with at least 12 credit hours in child development; or
- Associate's degree in early childhood education, child development, special education, child psychology, educational psychology, elementary education, or family consumer science with two years of experience as a director in an early childhood program, with preference given for required experience with a provider that is accredited or TRS certified.

A Local Workforce Development Board (Board) can request that the Texas Workforce Commission waive the minimum education requirements if the Board can demonstrate that no applicants in its workforce area meet the minimum education requirements.

Minimum Work Experience

One year of full-time early childhood classroom experience in a child care, Early Head Start, Head Start, or prekindergarten through third grade school program

Demonstrated Knowledge

- Best practices in early childhood education
- Understanding of early childhood evaluations, observations, and assessments for both teachers and children
- ITERS, ECERS-R, FCERS, TBRS, CLASS, or other assessment tools

Other Preferred Knowledge

- Understanding of TRS Certification Guidelines and the minimum standards of Texas child care licensing
- Bilingual (English and Spanish speaker)
- Ability to relate to individuals from culturally diverse backgrounds
- Microsoft Word and Excel, Internet, and comfortable using e-mail and entering data on a PC tablet
- Detail oriented with strong oral and written communication skills
- Basic administrative skills, including recordkeeping and use of a computer for data management and professional communication

Required Continuing Education and Professional Development

Participation in required annual professional development and continuing education consistent with child care licensing minimum-training requirements for a center director