



AB 1930 (Reyes) Child Development Associate Teacher Permit Renewal

SUMMARY

This bill addresses staffing shortages that exist within early learning and care programs by removing restrictions on Associate Teacher permit renewals.

BACKGROUND

High-quality Early Learning and Care (ECE) keeps children safe and healthy and sets the foundation upon which learning is built. These learning environments help children develop the social and emotional skills they will need for success in school and their lives outside of school. Coming out of the pandemic, the enduring staffing crisis in ECE programs across California threatened the stability and availability of care for children and families.

Early childhood programs continue to face staffing challenges with the result that parents and children have less access to high-quality programs. The recent increase in state reimbursement rates for state childcare and preschool has been an improvement but in itself does not resolve staffing shortages.

Existing law requires the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) to, by rule or regulation, establish requirements for the issuance and the renewal of permits authorizing, among other things, service in the care, development, and instruction of children in childcare and development

programs. Current law also requires the CTC to establish requirements for the periods of duration of the above-mentioned permit(s).

The CTC has established the Child Development Permit with six different levels, and each permit level is initially issued for five years. Permits are renewable for successive five-year periods upon completion of 105 hours of professional growth, except for the Associate Teacher Permit. The Child Development Associate Teacher Permit can only be renewed once (after 5 years), and permit holders must progress to a Child Development Teacher Permit within 10 years or lose their permit. It is the only permit that restricts individuals to one renewal. The Child Development Associate Teacher Permit authorizes permit holders to provide service in the care, development, and instruction of children in a child care and development program and to supervise a Child Development Permit Assistant and an aide.

Associate Teachers provide important support in classrooms and wonderful care for children. Associate Teacher Permit holders may supervise children alone and may contribute to the development of curriculum and instruction.

The Child Development Permit renewal restriction limits those holding an Associate Teacher Permit to one renewal. This means that these individuals can work for a maximum of ten years in these positions and then must either meet the requirements for a Teacher Permit, leave their position, or leave the field altogether. For some experienced Associate Teacher Permit holders, this forces a change they are not seeking. Some may lack the support or choose not to pursue another permit level.

For providers, it results in the loss of experienced valuable staff. The impact is exacerbated by the shortage of early childhood staff and the recruitment of experienced ECE staff to Transitional Kindergarten classrooms and K-12 local educational agencies.

THIS BILL

The bill requires that, by April 30, 2025, the Commission on Teacher Credentialing authorize a permit holder of a Child Development Associate Teacher Permit to renew their permit without a limitation on the number of renewals if the permit holder completes professional development and ECE unit requirements.

SUPPORT

California County Superintendents (co-sponsor)
Child Care Resource Center (co-sponsor)
EveryChild California (co-sponsor)
Head Start California (co-sponsor)
Kidango (co-sponsor)
Santa Clara County Office of Education (co-sponsor)

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