Early Childhood Professional Recognition Bonuses

The following bonuses are for Vermont regulated early childhood and afterschool program staff who have achieved specific professional development certificates, credentials, or educator licensure recognized by the Vermont professional development system which is funded by the Department for Children and Families Child Development Division (CDD).

Available Bonuses

Professional Achievement, Credential, or Educator Licensure	Amount
Northern Lights Level I Certificate (includes completion of Fundamentals training and one year of experience.)	$300
Northern Lights Level II Certificate (may include first Child Development Associate (CDA) credential if received within the past two years)	$1,200
Northern Lights Level III A (includes Registered Child Care Apprenticeship Certificate, or Community College of Vermont Childcare Certificate AND two years of experience in regulated care)	$2,100
Northern Lights Level III B (includes an associate degree in a related field AND two years of experience in regulated care)	$2,400
Northern Lights Level IV (can include a bachelors', degree in a related field AND two years of experience)	$3,000
Northern Lights Level V (can include a masters' degree in a related field AND two years of experience)	$3,500
Northern Lights Level VI (can include a Doctorate including a PhD. in a related field AND two years of experience)	$4,000
Vermont Agency of Education (AOE) educator licensure for **first** (not provisional or renewal) early childhood educator or early childhood special educator endorsement.	$1,000
Program Director Credential Step 1	$900

VERMONT
DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
CHILD DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

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Professional Achievement, Credential, or Educator Licensure	Amount
Program Director Credential Step 2	$900
Program Director Credential Step 3 (completion) *(includes individuals working in afterschool programs)*	$3,000

Eligibility

The applicant must:

- Be employed by a Vermont regulated early childhood or afterschool program.
- Have not received a bonus from CDD in the past for this level certificate, degree, or credential.
- Not be on a public school teacher contract or equivalent (paraeducators are eligible for bonuses).

In addition, recognition bonuses are only available for NEW Level Certificates for the highest level for which you are qualified.

How To Apply

- For **Northern Lights Level Certificate bonuses**, please complete the Level Certificate Application on the Northern Lights at Community College of Vermont's (CCV) website.
- For support in applying for a **Level Certificate** or the **Program Director Credential**, contact your Northern Lights at CCV Resource Advisor.
- For questions about **AOE teacher licensure**, please visit the website or contact AOE at 802-828-3440.
- For more information on Level Certificate bonus payment processing, please contact Vermont Association for the Education of Young Children (VTAEYC) at PDsupports@vtaeyc.org.
- Programs must submit a current federal W-9 form for any payments.