

Written in the Stars

Your Guide to Parent Aware Training Requirements

Full-Rating Pathway | Updated March 2026

Children do better when their providers and teachers have professional preparation that includes on-going training and higher education coursework. Lead teachers and providers need to have the appropriate hours of training, coaching, consultation, or mentoring in the Knowledge and Competency Framework (KCF) Content Areas outlined below. Requirements are listed by Star-Level.

Lead teachers and providers who have earned an initial Child Development Associate® (CDA) Credential™ within the last 3 years or an AMI/AMS Montessori diploma within the last 5 years and have these credentials listed on their Learning Record have met all training requirements. Lead teachers and providers with a current, age-appropriate Minnesota teaching license on their Learning Record have met all the training requirements except those with an asterisk (*) and will only need to complete those training hours.

Prepare for your program's Rating by doing these three things:

1) Have a Current License



Your program license should be in good standing with the state or your Tribe.

2) Be Serving Children



Your program should be actively providing child care and early education to children, ranging in age from birth to kindergarten entry.

3) Have a Develop Membership



All lead providers, lead teachers, directors, and education coordinators should have a current Individual Membership in Develop. Go to developtoolmn.org.

THREE- & FOUR-STAR RATING

Required # of Hours	Knowledge and Competency Framework Content Area
10	Content Area I: Child Development and Learning
10	Content Area II: Developmentally Appropriate Learning Experiences
10	Content Area II.C: Promoting Social and Emotional Development OR Content Area IX: Trauma Informed Care and Practice
10	Content Area III: Relationships with Families OR Content Area X: Working with Multilingual Children and Families
10 *	Content Area IV: Assessment, Evaluation, and Individualization

TWO-STAR RATING

Required # of Hours	Knowledge and Competency Framework Content Area
8	Content Area I: Child Development and Learning
2	Content Area II.C: Promoting Social and Emotional Development OR Content Area IX: Trauma Informed Care and Practice
6	Content Area III: Relationships with Families OR Content Area X: Working with Multilingual Children and Families
2 *	Content Area IV: Assessment, Evaluation, and Individualization

*Required even if you have a current, age-appropriate Minnesota teaching license.

**Licensed programs in good standing with the state or their Tribe can receive a One-Star Rating without meeting the training requirements listed above.

This initiative is made possible (or funded in part) with a grant from the Minnesota Department of Children, Youth, and Families.