

House Bill 2729
Senate Amendments
Section-by-Section Analysis

HOUSE VERSION

SECTION 1. Section 29.167, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsections (b) and (d) and adding Subsections (b-1), (b-2), and (b-3) to read as follows:

(b) Each teacher for a prekindergarten program class must:

(1) be certified under Subchapter B, Chapter 21; and

(2) have one of the following additional qualifications:

(A) an associate or baccalaureate degree in early childhood education or a related field;

(B) a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or another early childhood education credential approved by the agency;

(C) ~~[(B)]~~ certification offered through a training center accredited by Association Montessori Internationale or through the Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education;

(D) ~~[(C)]~~ at least eight years' experience of teaching in a nationally accredited child care program or a Texas Rising Star Program;

(E) ~~[(D)]~~ be employed as a prekindergarten teacher in a school district that has received approval from the commissioner for the district's prekindergarten-specific instructional training plan that the teacher uses in the teacher's prekindergarten classroom; or

(F) ~~[(E)]~~ an equivalent qualification.

(b-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (b), each teacher for a prekindergarten class provided by an entity with which a school district contracts to provide a prekindergarten program must:

(1) be supervised by a person who meets the requirements under Subsection (b); and

(2) have one of the following qualifications:

(A) at least two years' experience of teaching in a nationally

SENATE VERSION (CS)

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(1) be certified under Subchapter B, Chapter 21; and

(2) have one of the following additional qualifications:

(A) an associate or baccalaureate degree in early childhood education or a related field;

(B) a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or another early childhood education credential approved by the agency;

(C) ~~[(B)]~~ certification offered through a training center accredited by Association Montessori Internationale or through the Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education;

(D) ~~[(C)]~~ at least eight years' experience of teaching in a nationally accredited child care program or a Texas Rising Star Program;

(E) ~~[(D)]~~ be employed as a prekindergarten teacher in a school district that has received approval from the commissioner for the district's prekindergarten-specific instructional training plan that the teacher uses in the teacher's prekindergarten classroom; or

(F) ~~[(E)]~~ an equivalent qualification.

(b-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (b), each teacher for a prekindergarten class provided by an entity with which a school district contracts to provide a prekindergarten program must:

(1) be supervised by a person who meets the requirements under Subsection (b); and

(2) have one of the following qualifications:

(A) at least two years' experience of teaching in a nationally

CONFERENCE

House Bill 2729
Senate Amendments
Section-by-Section Analysis

HOUSE VERSION

accredited child care program or a Texas Rising Star Program and:

(i) a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or another early childhood education credential approved by the agency; or

(ii) certification offered through a training center accredited by Association Montessori Internationale or through the Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education; or

(B) a qualification described by Subsection (b)(2)(A), (D), (E), or (F).

(b-2) A person who supervises a prekindergarten program provided by an entity with which a school district contracts for that purpose may supervise multiple prekindergarten classrooms to:

(1) ensure programmatic compliance; and

(2) support:

(A) classroom instruction;

(B) the developmental needs of students; and

(C) continuous quality improvement, including professional development.

(b-3) Subsections (b-1) and (b-2) and this subsection expire September 1, 2029.

(d) A school district or an entity with which the district contracts to provide a prekindergarten program must attempt to maintain an average ratio in any prekindergarten program class of not less than one qualified [~~certified~~] teacher or teacher's aide for each 11 students.

SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with the 2023-2024 school year.

SENATE VERSION (CS)

accredited child care program or a Texas Rising Star Program and:

(i) a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or another early childhood education credential approved by the agency; or

(ii) certification offered through a training center accredited by Association Montessori Internationale or through the Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education; or

(B) a qualification described by Subsection (b)(2)(A), (D), (E), or (F).

(b-2) A person who supervises a prekindergarten program provided by an entity with which a school district contracts for that purpose may supervise multiple prekindergarten classrooms to:

(1) ensure programmatic compliance; and

(2) support:

(A) classroom instruction;

(B) the developmental needs of students; and

(C) continuous quality improvement, including professional development.

(d) A school district or an entity with which the district contracts to provide a prekindergarten program must attempt to maintain an average ratio in any prekindergarten program class of not less than one qualified [~~certified~~] teacher or teacher's aide for each 11 students.

SECTION 2. Same as House version.

CONFERENCE

House Bill 2729
Senate Amendments
Section-by-Section Analysis

HOUSE VERSION

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

SENATE VERSION (CS)

SECTION 3. Same as House version.

CONFERENCE