



CYC Certification – Levels

Determine which certification level to apply for based upon your education and work experience.

Field experience can include full-time and part-time paid work, a supervised internship, or Foster Parenting. (One-year full-time experience = about 2,000 hours).

Students can qualify for Provisional Certification status if all requirements *except* experience have been met. (Relevant CYC degrees include: Education, Human Services, Juvenile Justice, Recreation, Social work, and Sociology. Other degrees may be determined by board approval).

Entry Level Candidates

Need at least 2,000 hours of experience

OR CYC relevant degree:

Diploma / Degree	Hours of experience required
No diploma / non- relevant degree	2,000 hours
Child Development Associate (CDA)	None
CYC relevant Bachelor’s / Master’s	None

Associate Level Candidates

Need a diploma and 6,000 hours of experience

OR combination of degree plus experience:

Diploma / Degree	Hours of experience required
High School Diploma / GED	6,000 hours
Non-relevant Associate’s / Bachelor’s / Master’s / PhD	4,000 hours
CYC relevant Associate’s / Bachelor’s / Master’s / PhD	2,000 hours

Professional Level Candidates

Need a degree and 6,000 hours of experience

OR combination of degree plus experience:

Degree	Hours of experience required
Associate’s	6,000 hours
Non-relevant Bachelor’s / Master’s / PhD	4,000 hours
CYC relevant Bachelor’s / Master’s / PhD	2,000 hours

Entry Level candidates demonstrate a basic level of knowledge and skills while continuing to advance their experience and career exploration.

Associate Level candidates demonstrate a solid base of knowledge and skills while still developing their expertise and are often serving in managerial roles.

Professional Level candidates demonstrate a full range of knowledge and skills and typically serve in administrative or supervisory roles.