

# Why Professional Recognition Matters

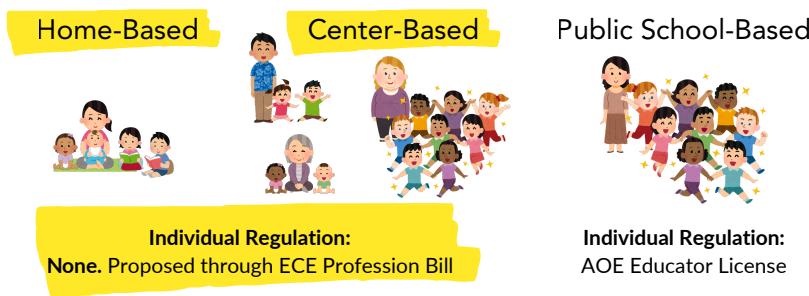
## The Early Childhood Educator Profession Bill Strengthens Our Child Care Workforce

The ECE Profession Bill would create recognition through Vermont's Office of Professional Regulation (OPR) for more than 8,000 early childhood educators in *non-public school* (home- and center-based) child care programs.

**Qualified early childhood educators lead to better outcomes for children in kindergarten and beyond.**

The ECE Profession Bill ensures every Vermont child has access to qualified early childhood educators, in any child care setting.

### Early Childhood Educators



**More than 8,000 Vermont early childhood educators work in non-public child care programs.**

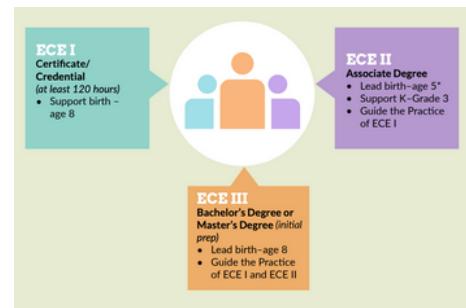
Home-based and center-based educators serve the majority of Vermont children in child care, but lack a system of individual regulation that aligns qualifications, accountability, and clear career pathways.

The bill is informed by Vermont educators and includes career clarity and supports, including a long, supported transition period to help the current workforce increase qualifications over time.

**Like the nursing profession, the ECE profession strengthens our workforce with clear career pathways that connect qualifications to compensation and accountability.**

"A license to practice creates a way for us to be *recognized* to teach what we are *actually qualified* to teach. That is equity that does not currently exist. It will keep me in business, it's stability for my children and families, and it encourages younger providers to stay in the field."

-Vermont Family Child Care Home Owner



from the *Unifying Framework for the ECE Profession*

**Provisions support and retain current educators while preparing our future workforce.**

Thanks to workforce advocacy, the bill includes a legacy Family Child Care Provider license, a longer transition period, and expanded degree eligibility.



Vermont Association for the Education of Young Children

An Affiliate of **naeyc**

**The bill aligns with the framework for a unified, national ECE profession endorsed by NAEYC, NAFCC, NAECTE, and NEA, among others: CommissionECE.org**

Learn more and subscribe:

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