



# Nebraska Step Up to Quality

## Coach Qualifications

To qualify for participation in the Nebraska Step Up to Quality Initiative coaches must comply with the following:

### Minimum Qualifications

- Have an Associate's Degree in Early Childhood Education or related field. Exceptions to this may be granted based on a candidate's experience and background, and/or commitment towards pursuing a degree.
- Have excellent oral and written communication skills, competent interpersonal skills, and strong organizational skills. Ability to communicate using technology, develop reports and track data.
- Have experience working in early childhood or related field for three or more years, in another leadership role, or as a coach/mentor, etc. providing ongoing support for implementation of effective practices.
- Be able to provide constructive feedback and suggestions to programs and collaborate with providers to draft and implement quality improvement plans in a respectful and professional manner. Be able to use a variety of strategies engage in goal setting strategies and facilitation of growth.
- Have knowledge of various regulating authority standards related to early childhood programs (Nebraska child care licensing regulations, Head Start performance standards, etc)
- Maintain confidentiality concerning issues and information about children, families, staff and programs.
- Maintain a commitment to ongoing professional development.
- Successfully pass required background checks.
- Ability to travel to appointments, meetings and training sessions which may require an overnight stay.

### Preferred Qualifications

- Have a Bachelor's or a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education or a related field.
- Trained with demonstrated reliability in CLASS and ERS instruments.
- Trained in the Nebraska Coaching model.
- Have five or more years of experience working in early childhood or a related field as a primary early care and education provider or in another leadership role, or as a coach/mentor, etc providing ongoing support for implementation of effective practices.
- Commitment to provide consistent services over time.
- Knowledge and expertise in promoting growth and development in children for any of the developmental domains (language and literacy, health and physical development, approaches to learning, social emotional development, creative arts, science and mathematics).
- Meet all other qualifications as listed under Minimum Qualifications.

### To apply to be a Step Up to Quality Coach:

[www.education.ne.gov/oec/pdfs/coach-application.pdf](http://www.education.ne.gov/oec/pdfs/coach-application.pdf)

*Nebraska's Step Up To Quality Initiative* is administered in partnership between the Nebraska Department of Education, Office of Early Childhood and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.

