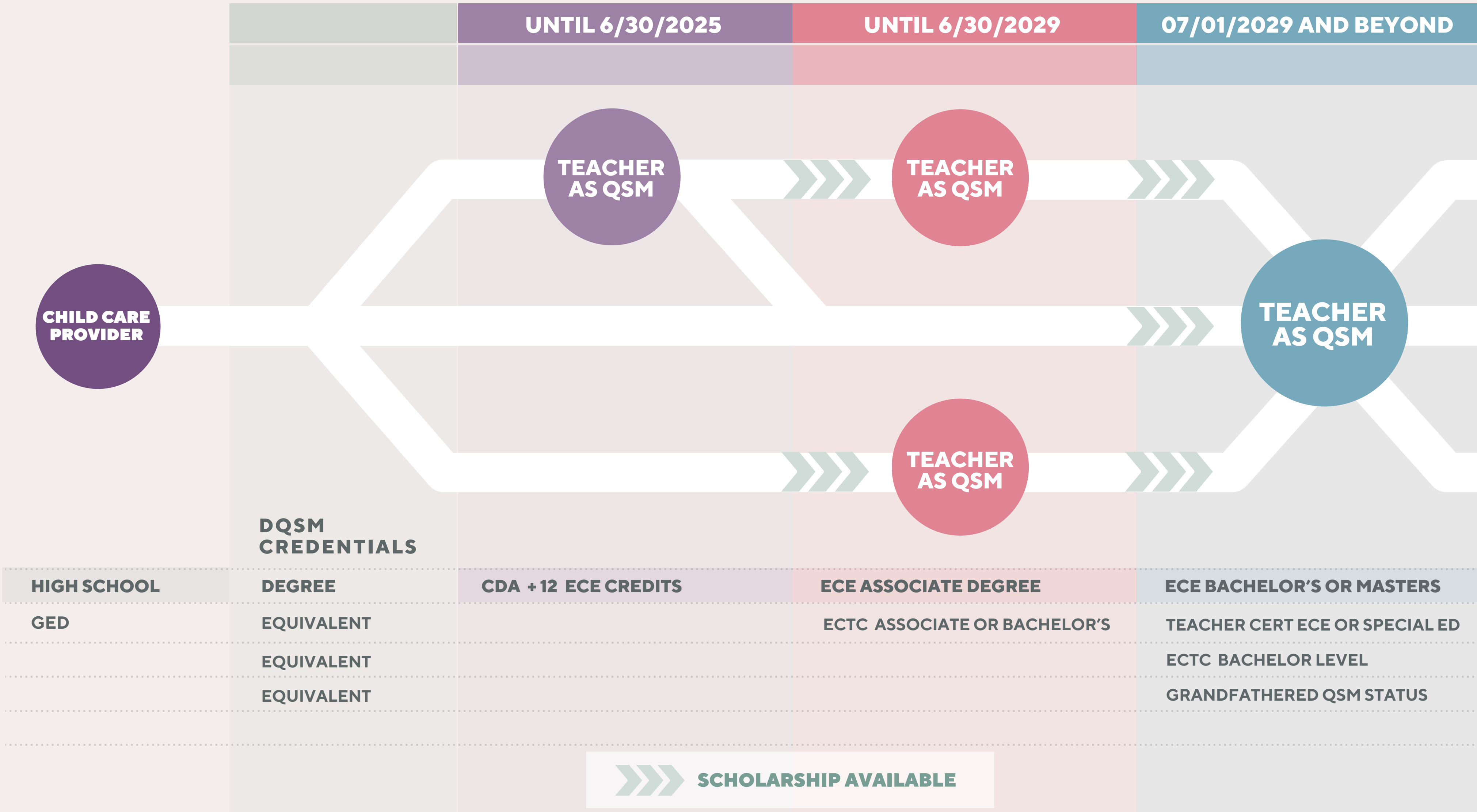


EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

which pathway is right for you?

Understand the educational qualification milestones for staff in OEC-funded programs:



there are many ways to meet the requirements to become a Qualified Staff Member

SELECT THE PATH THAT IS RIGHT FOR YOU!

Whether you are just starting your career in early childhood education, or have been sharing your talents in the field for decades, there are many wonderful ways to advance your skills, gain more credentials, and build your career. Scholarships are available to ensure our talented workforce can gain the skills you need to have a fulfilling career and a profound impact on the brain development of young children.

I HAVE A.....

HIGH SCHOOL DEGREE

If you have your high school degree or GED, the fastest path to become an early childhood education teacher is to attend a regionally accredited college and pursue your Bachelor's degree in ECE. Or work towards an Associate degree in ECE!

I HAVE A.....

CDA CREDENTIAL

If you have a CDA credential, there are many pathways to build your career. Those with a CDA can pursue a Bachelor's degree in ECE at an accredited college. Or select an Associate degree program in ECE. Both of these pathways offer scholarships to cover costs.

I HAVE AN.....

ASSOCIATE DEGREE

If you already have your Associate degree, you can build on your education by studying for your Bachelor's in ECE. Those who work towards a Bachelor's degree can receive a scholarship towards their ECE studies.

I HAVE A.....

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Those who already have a Bachelor's degree may have options to gain more skills in early childhood education. If your degree is not in ECE, consider gaining ECE credits to advance your career in early childhood education. Scholarships are available.

FIND YOUR SCHOOL

Many colleges and universities in Connecticut offer Associate and Bachelor's degrees in early childhood education. There are 19 colleges in the state offering a program of study leading to an OEC Early Childhood Teacher Credential (ECTC); 13 at the Associate level; and 9 at the Bachelor's level. [LEARN MORE >>](#)

APPLY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP

For those in need of financial assistance, the Connecticut Office of Early Childhood offers scholarships to help those currently working directly with children birth to 5 years old pay for their coursework in early childhood education. Scholarships are available for higher education institutions that are regionally accredited. [LEARN HOW TO APPLY >>](#)

