



INFANT TODDLER DEVELOPMENTAL SPECIALIST (ITDS)
CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS



The Local Early Steps (LES) must collect the information below for each ITDS applicant.

COPY OF DIPLOMA OR TRANSCRIPTS. ITDS applicants must have one of the following:

- a. Bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited college or university in early childhood education or early childhood/special education, child and family development, family life specialist, preschool education, prekindergarten education, communication sciences, psychology, or social work.
 - The LES should verify that university accreditation is met by checking the following website: <http://ope.ed.gov/accreditation/Search.aspx>.
 - If the college or university is not listed on the website, verification of accreditation by another organization must be included in the certification packet.
- b. An equivalent degree based on transcript review. An equivalent degree would generally consist of at least 18 credit hours in one of the fields listed in **a.** above.
- c. Bachelor's degree or higher with a degree in Rehabilitation with coursework related to serving the visually impaired OR a bachelor's degree as a teacher for the visually impaired AND a minimum of 9 hours of coursework specific to infant and toddlers **or** a certificate of completion of VIISA or INSITE training.
- d. Bachelor's degree or higher in Communication disorders, audiology or deaf studies AND a minimum of 9 hours of coursework specific to infants and toddlers who are deaf and hard of hearing **or** a certificate of completion of SKI-HI or INSITE training.
- e. An out-of-field degree from an accredited college or university.

DOCUMENTATION OF PROFESSIONAL/POST DEGREE EXPERIENCE

- a. An ITDS applicant with an in-field or equivalent degree must provide documentation of at least one year of post-degree professional experience in early intervention using the Early Steps Certification of Experience form.
- b. An ITDS applicant with an out-of-field degree must provide documentation of at least five years of post-degree professional experience in early intervention using the Early Steps Certification of Experience form.

VERIFICATION OF ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- The applicant has successfully completed the university ITDS coursework at an approved university as documented by a university letter or transcripts
- OR
- The applicant has completed the six ITDS online modules.

VERIFICATION OF THE FOLLOWING:

- The applicant has completed the three Early Steps Orientation modules.

For additional information regarding the ITDS application process, refer to Component 10 of the Early Steps Policy Handbook and Operations Guide.