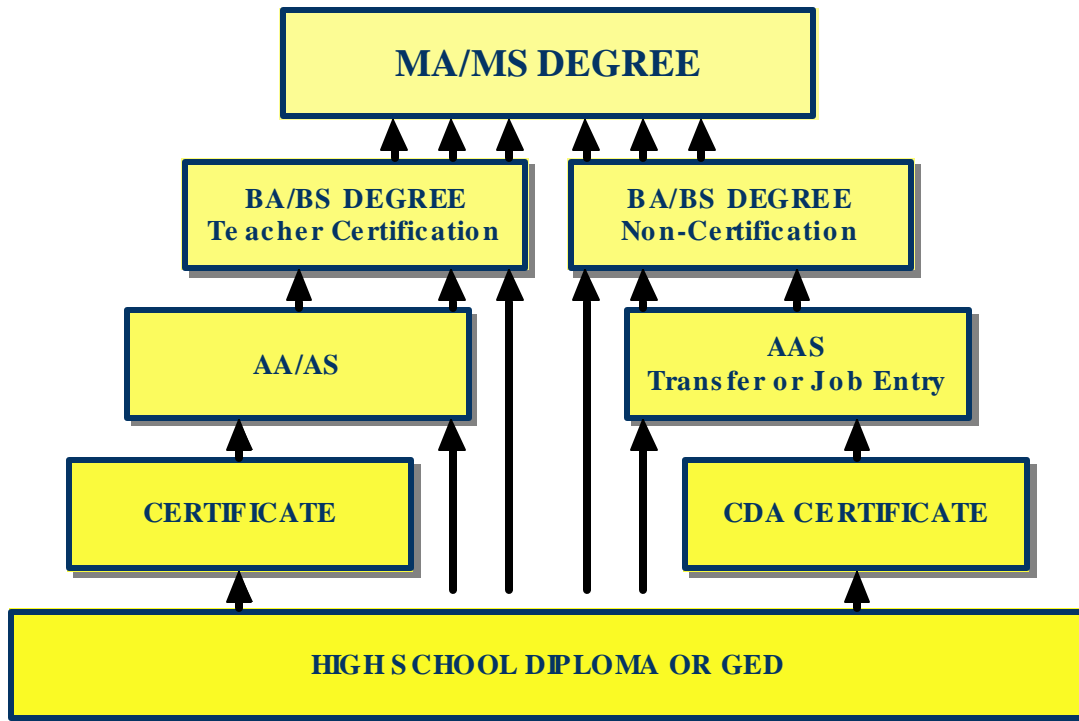


**CORE COMPONENTS**  
for Early Childhood Education Programs

The following six components form the foundation of all the programs listed below. Approved courses taken in these areas are designed to transfer.

- |   |                                  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 1. Child Development                      | 4. Guidance and Observation      |
| 2. Intro to ECE field and Professionalism | 5. Health, Safety, and Nutrition |
| 3. Child/ Family/ School/ Community       | 6. Exceptional Child             |



**Certificate program** in Infant/Toddler, Family/Child Care, School Age Child, Teacher in Early Childhood, Administrative Certificate

**Child Development Associate (CDA) certificate** taken as part of high school curriculum or in college

**AA/AS degree** designed for transfer

**AAS degree** in Early Childhood Education or Child Development (designed for job entry or transfer)

**BA/BS degree** leading to (04) certification in Early Childhood Education (teacher certification program)

**BA/BS degree** in Child and Family Studies, Human Ecology, Human Development or other related degree (non-certification program)

Various levels of the Illinois Director Credential can be awarded to completers of Associate, Baccalaureate and Graduate degrees. In addition, all students must successfully complete the Illinois Certification Testing System Basic Skills test. The Credential offers a recognized professional standard for center-based early and school-age care and education directors.