



The Revised Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale (ECERS-R)

Connecticut Certification

The revised *Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale* (ECERS-R) is a comprehensive, field tested observation instrument designed to measure the quality of early care and education environments. The ECERS-R process includes a short teacher interview and observations of the classroom to identify at which level quality indicators are being met: Space and Furnishings; Personal Care Routines; Language-Reasoning Activities; Interaction; Program Structure; and Parents and Staff. See <http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~ecers/> for more information.

The Connecticut State Department of Education and SERC have designed a professional development program to ensure that all personnel conducting the ECERS-R observations are doing so appropriately, thus ensuring reliable results. The training involves two half-day workshops on the tool and three full days conducting practice observations in early childhood programs, scoring, and determining inter-rater reliability. Only participants who achieve 85% inter-rater reliability by the end of the training will become Connecticut certified in the use of the ECERS-R instrument. Participants who achieve reliability through this training are certified for a one-year period and can conduct ECERS-R observations throughout the state.

ECERS-R certified personnel function as consultants and contract directly with early care and education programs. (They cannot conduct an official ECERS-R observation in a program in which they have a personal or professional relationship.) During fiscal year 07-08, state funds might be available to begin a process of conducting ECERS throughout the state, which would change the contracting process. School readiness programs are required to use certified personnel for ECERS-R evaluations conducted on their programs.

Eligibility:

Minimally, participants must have a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education or Child Development with three (3) years of classroom experience. A related degree in Elementary Education, Social Work, Child and Family Studies, or Psychology with twelve (12) credits in Early Childhood OR three (3) years of early childhood classroom experience is also acceptable.

Please note:

Selected participants must also plan to attend the morning portion of the *ECERS-R Overview and Applications for Program Improvement* session. It is not necessary to complete a separate application form. Refer to page 15 for details.

**Strand 1:
Dates, Times, Location**

Tuesday, November 27, 2007
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
SERC, Middletown
AND
Observations on:
November 28 thru 30, 2007
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Strand 2:
Dates, Times, Location**

Tuesday, April 22, 2008
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
SERC, Middletown
AND
Observations on:
April 23 thru 25, 2008
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Registration Fee:

\$50.00 per person
Payable to Rensselaer at Hartford
Payment, which covers the cost of the
All About the ECERS-R (2003) publication,
is due prior to the session
upon confirmation of participation.

APPLICATION FORM: **ECERS-R/CT Certification**

(08-46-019-020-FN/ECE)js

(Please Print Clearly.)

Please complete the following application form and return to Jennifer Sharpe at SERC, **ECE Initiative**, 25 Industrial Park Road, Middletown, CT 06457-1520. Applications must be submitted no later than **Two Weeks prior to Strand 1 and Three Weeks prior to Strand 2**. If you have any questions regarding this application, please contact Jennifer Sharpe, Education Services Specialist, at SERC, (860) 632-1485, ext. 268.

Please indicate choice of session(s): Strand 1: 11/27/07 Strand 2: 4/22/08

Program/School _____ District _____

Name _____ Home Phone (____) _____ Work Phone (____) _____

Home Address _____ City _____ Zip Code _____

Position/Role _____ Email (Please print clearly.) _____

Release time is approved for educators: Administrator's Signature is required _____