

Why are there Professional Activity Requirements for some levels on the Pathways Administrator Track?

Being a part of a professional organization is a critical component of most professions. Belonging and working with a professional organization can make you part of advocacy efforts and upgrade the public perception of the importance of working with young children.

What are some early childhood professional organizations that I might join?*

- **Child Care Association of Louisiana (CCAL)**
(225) 933-5435 <http://www.childcarelouisiana.org/>
Affiliate of the **National Child Care Association**.
(800) 543-7161 <http://www.nccanet.org/>
- **Louisiana Association for the Education of Young Children (LAEYC)**
(504)586-8509 Email: info@laeyc.org
Affiliate of the **National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)**
(800) 424-2460 <http://www.naeyc.org/>
- **Louisiana Early Childhood Association (LAECA)**
(800) 215-9034 <http://www.laeca.org/>
Affiliate of **Southern Early Childhood Association (SECA)**
(800) 305-7322 <http://www.southernearlychildhood.org/>
- **Louisiana Head Start Association** (Association is restricted to Head Start agencies and their employees.)
(800) 450-0626
- **National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC)**
(800) 359-3817 <http://www.nafcc.org/>
- **National Black Child Development Institute (NBCDI)**
(800) 556-2234 <http://nbcidi.org/>

Other membership organizations will be considered upon request. Membership should be current (within the calendar year) to maintain your Pathways level for the School Readiness Tax Credit.

What is service to the early childhood profession?*

Service to the early childhood profession shows that an individual is demonstrating a commitment to early childhood as a profession by going *above and beyond* what is required for their employment. The individual is making a contribution to the field by participating in advocacy efforts or giving back to the profession in some way. Service is required at Director 2 and above on the Administrator Track.

Some examples of activities that demonstrate “service to the profession” are:

- Serving on a board or committee related to early childhood (please submit letter showing appointment or minutes from meetings)
- Presenting at a professional conference or event (submit conference brochure showing your scheduled session)
- Volunteering at a conference or event (submit letter or certificate of appreciation for volunteering—must include description of event and number of hours worked)
- Participating as a Professional Development Specialist (documentation from CDA Council for PDS)
- Conducting CLASS observations outside your own center (submit completed summary score sheet with observed person's name blacked out)
- Attendance at a professional organization conference or professional event (submit certificate)

Other activities will be considered upon request. Documentation of service to the profession should be obtained and submitted every 3 years in order to maintain your Pathways level for the School Readiness Tax Credit.

* More information available at <http://pathways.nsula.edu/career-development/>