



Ohio Revised Code

Section 5153.112 Caseworker qualifications.

Effective: April 9, 2025

Legislation: House Bill 497

(A) A public children services agency may hire as a caseworker only the following:

- (1) A person who has a bachelor's degree in human services-related studies;
- (2) A person who has a bachelor's degree in any field and has been employed for at least two years in a human services-related occupation;
- (3) A person who has an associate's degree in human services-related studies;
- (4) A person who has completed at least sixty semester credit hours or the equivalent towards a degree in human services-related studies from an accredited institution of higher education;
- (5) A person who has been employed for at least five years in a human services-related occupation.

(B)(1) Except as provided in division (B)(2) of this section, for employment to continue, a person described in division (A)(2), (3), (4), or (5) of this section must obtain a job-related bachelor's degree not later than five years after the date employment with the agency commences.

(2) An executive director of a public children services agency may waive the requirement described in division (B)(1) of this section for an employee in good standing who demonstrates inability to meet this requirement due to hardship. To be considered in good standing for the purposes of this division, an employee must meet at least all of the following requirements:

- (a) Be in compliance with training requirements;
- (b) Has not received any formal discipline during the twelve months preceding the employee's five-year anniversary date;



(c) Is not the subject of any investigation into allegations of professional misconduct.

(C) This section applies only to persons hired on or after October 5, 2000, and does not apply to a caseworker employed by a public children services agency before the effective date of this section who is hired by another public children services agency on or after that date.
