

DEVELOPMENTAL SPECIALIST CERTIFICATION: “RELATED” BACHELOR’S DEGREES

[Ohio Administrative Code Rule 5180-10-05](#) governs and outlines the pathways to eligibility for Developmental Specialist (DS) certification in Ohio. One of these pathways states that the applicant must “hold a bachelor's degree or graduate-level degree in education, health, social or behavioral science, social services, human services, or other related field from an accredited college or university.”

This list details common bachelor’s or graduate-level degrees that would be considered acceptable under this eligibility pathway. This list is not exhaustive and will be updated as other degrees are reviewed by the Department of Children and Youth.

“RELATED” DEGREES

Anthropology	Disability Studies	Nursing	Social Work
Child Development	Education	Occupational Therapy	Sociology
Child & Family Studies	Family Science	Physical Therapy	Special Education
Cognitive Science	Health Sciences	Psychology	
Communication Sciences	Human Development	Public Health	
Counseling	Infant & Toddler Studies	Recreation Therapy	

“UNRELATED” DEGREES

Degrees not listed in the “Related” section above have either not been approved or have not yet been reviewed by the Department of Children and Youth. Generally, degrees in fields such as mathematics, law, engineering, and business are not considered “related” under the developmental specialist certification rule.

To submit a degree for consideration of a “related” designation, please contact ei@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov.