

Dear RBPB Specialists and supervisors,

The Minnesota Department of Human Services is updating the criteria to become a Relationship-Based Professional Development (RBPB) Specialist. These changes were developed with input from current specialists, providers, and system partners and are meant to expand opportunities for individuals to become RBPB Specialists.

**Changes will go into effect July 1, 2024. Current RBPB Specialists do not need to take action until your next scheduled Endorsement renewal date.**

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**Summary of changes:**

- Establish two pathways to qualify for an Endorsement, when possible.
  - Endorsements with two pathways have one based on education, and a second based on a combination of education and experience leading group care in early care and education programs.
- No Endorsement requires verified education above an Associate's degree.
- Endorsements will be renewed every five years, rather than every three years.
  - Exceptions to this will be the CLASS Endorsements (1 year renewal) and Assessment Coach – GOLD Endorsement (3-year renewal) due to Teachstone's and Teaching Strategies' policies.
- Each Endorsement will have a requirement of 50 hours of professional development before renewal (CLASS Endorsements will be 10 hours per renewal; Assessment Coach-GOLD® will be 30 hours per renewal).
  - RBPB Specialists will not be required to complete specific content for renewal.
  - Professional development will be documented through a plan created by the specialist and their supervisor that supports their professional learning goals.
  - RBPB Specialists who do not have a supervisor can seek support for their professional development goals from the Trainer and RBPB Support Services (TARSS) program ([tarss@umn.edu](mailto:tarss@umn.edu)).

This **non-public link** provided by Achieve, the Minnesota Center for Professional Development, will take you to a page with information on the specific criteria for each Endorsement: [RBPB Membership Endorsement Updates \(mncpd.org\)](https://mncpd.org)

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**Supervisors, Join Us May 16<sup>th</sup> for an RBPB Endorsement Criteria Webinar**

We will be hosting an online webinar on Thursday, May 16, 2024 from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. for supervisors of RBPB Specialists to learn more about the criteria changes, how those changes align with work moving forward and answer any question you may have.

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Thank you to those that participated in the engagement sessions and helped the state shape these new criteria. Your continued partnership in this work is greatly appreciated.

For more information, check out the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) (FAQ) section of the Achieve MNCPD Develop RBPB Specialist Membership page, or contact [support@mncpd.org](mailto:support@mncpd.org) if you have questions that weren't answered in the FAQ.