To meet the NC Pre-K Standards, 10A NCAC 09.3013 would also apply as follows:

*All teacher assistants shall:

1. have a high school diploma or GED and shall hold, or be working toward, an Associate Degree in birth-through-kindergarten, child development, early childhood education, or an early childhood education related field or a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential. Teacher assistants working toward the minimum of an Associate Degree or CDA shall make progress by completing a minimum of six documented semester hours per year; or

2. Meet the employment requirements outlined by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Pub.L. 114-95, and have one of the following:
   a. Six documented semester hours of coursework in early childhood education, or
   b. two years of work experience in an early childhood setting.

*Criminal Background Check (CBC)*

The North Carolina Child Care Law (General Statute 110-90.2) requires a criminal background check (CBC) be conducted and a determination of fitness be made on all persons who work or provide child care in a licensed or regulated child care facility. Due to this new law, all DPS Staff working with Pre-K students must comply with the state law and have full background checks including fingerprinting. Please click on the link for further information. [https://www.ncleg.net/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/PDF/BySection/Chapter_115C/GS_115C-332.pdf](https://www.ncleg.net/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/PDF/BySection/Chapter_115C/GS_115C-332.pdf)

Employees are required to complete the below steps:

1. Application [https://ncchildcarecbc.nc.gov/](https://ncchildcarecbc.nc.gov/)
2. Fingerprinting at local Sheriff Department (*Employee cost approx. $50, within 7 days of submitted application)*
3. Present a copy of approval letter to district

Must complete criminal background check including fingerprint check and receive the Qualification Letter from DCDEE. NC Qualification Letters are good for 3 years and portable. Must submit letter upon employment.