

Extraordinaire Au Pairs

Training by Country

Details on the formal childcare degrees held by each au pair applicant are provided to the host family during the placement process. A summary of the formal childcare certificates held by applicants from our most popular countries include:

Australia

- **Diploma/Associate Diploma of Community Services (Childcare):** Earned after two years of supervised field work with infants and preschoolers in a range of childcare settings.
- **Bachelor of Teaching—Early Childhood Education:** Earned after three years of coursework aimed at educational and care services for children up to eight years of age.
- **Bachelor of Education—Early Childhood Education, Honors Year Program:** A one-year, full-time course that serves as a continuation of the Bachelor of Teaching – Early Childhood Education degree.

Austria

- **Diploma in Kindergarten Teaching** (Kindergartenpädagogik): This five-year course is taught at the Academy of Kindergarten Pedagogy. It is a nationally recognized qualification for those wishing to teach in a kindergarten with children aged three to six years old, or work in a crèche with newborns to three-year-olds.
- **Diploma in Educating** (Sozialpädagogik): The syllabus is almost identical to the Diploma in Kindergarten Teaching, but the main focus is the particular needs of school children six and older.
- **Diploma in Children's Nursing** (Kinder und Jugendlichenpflege): The diploma is attained through a three-year, full-time course at a nursing school. The training comprises all the necessary medical and psychological knowledge to care for children with mental or bodily illnesses, healthy newborn babies, and handicapped and seriously ill children.

Brazil

- **Bachelor of Pedagogy:** Prepares graduates to teach pre-school to high school students.

Canada

- **Diploma of Early Childhood Education:** Two-year course taken through a community college. The main focus is practical childcare experience within childcare centers and kindergartens.
- **Child and Youth Worker Diploma:** Two to three years of full-time study. Candidates focus on individual growth and development in specialized educational programs, schools, youth detention centers, before and after care programs, community work with children and youth, and family homes.
- **Developmental Services Worker:** A two-year full-time diploma course. Graduates support individuals and families to enhance quality of life and facilitate inclusion at home, school, work, and in the community.

Costa Rica

- **Bachelor of Pre-School Education:** A four-year university-level course preparing graduates to teach in state or private schools as primary school teachers. The course enables graduates to teach in either English or Spanish—the last year of the course is taught only in English.

Germany

- **Children's Nurse** (Kinderkranken Pflegerin): During three years of training at nursing schools, students learn how to care for newborns and small children, emergency measures, preventive health care, care of illnesses, and administering medication.
- **Childcare Giver** (Kinderpflegerin): Two to three years of training at vocational schools specializing in childcare. A mandatory curriculum provides practical experience in kindergartens or homes with newborns.
- **Educator** (Erzieherin): Three years of training as an educator includes a year of on-the-job training accompanied by theoretical lessons after two years of general and specialized classes in subjects such as psychology, hygiene, literature and media education, play and leisure time activities, music, health, and physical education.

Hungary

- **Diploma in Kindergarten Teaching** (Ovoda Pedagogus): A three-year course taught at Teacher's Training College. The program includes practical training one day per week working in a childcare institution and one month in second and third year kindergarten.

Poland

- **Diploma in Childcare** (Opiekunka do Dziecka): Two-year course which includes a minimum of 180 hours each of the two years in practical training placement. This may include working in a crèche, kindergarten, or orphanage.

Romania

- **Diploma of Pedagogical High School:** A five-year program. Students start their studies at the age of 14 years old. A graduate with this degree will be allowed to work in a supervised classroom as an assistant to kindergarten or primary school classes. The kindergarten qualification exam must be passed in order for candidates to become qualified teachers.
- **Bachelor of Pedagogy—Institutor:** A three-year university level qualification. Candidates are placed in nursery schools and primary schools throughout the course. Students have the option to specialize in foreign language teaching. Graduates are qualified to teach in nursery schools and primary schools (children 4 – 10 years old).

South Africa

- **N6 Certificate:** This two-year program includes 18 months of field work. First aid training is included with courses in child health, immunization, and day care management.
- **National Diploma:** Residential childcare three-year course taught in colleges of further education. Students are closely supervised by a recognized Child and Youth Care practitioner during a six-month assignment at an institution such as a day care and play centers.
- **Diploma in Education—Junior Primary Care:** Three-year university degree course focusing on children up to 11 years of age.

Sweden

- **Children's Recreational Program** (Barn och Fritid): This three-year senior high school program is designed to give students basic vocational training for activities within childcare.
- **Early Childhood Education, International Program:** Four-year international program in early childhood education leading to a BA degree in pedagogy, child, and youth studies.

Thailand

- **Nursing Degree + 1 year experience:** A four-year university-level course. This course focuses on all aspects of clinical and community nursing care. Graduates go on to become nurses.
- **Bachelor's in Education:** A four-year university-level course. The primary focuses for candidates are effective teaching skills and methodology, child development, and educational psychology. Practical training is done in the fourth year for 8 months. Graduates go on to teach in elementary schools or secondary schools.

