



NATIONAL COUNCIL  
ON FAMILY RELATIONS



# THE CERTIFIED FAMILY LIFE EDUCATOR CREDENTIAL

*Empowering Families  
To Reach Their  
Full Potential*





## What Is Family Life Education?

Family Life Education is the practice of equipping and empowering family members to develop knowledge and skills that enhance their well-being and strengthen their interpersonal relationships, all through an educational, preventive, and strengths-based approach.

Family Life Educators consider societal issues — parenting, relationships, economics, sexuality, and many more — within the context of the family and larger systems. They empower families themselves to apply knowledge about healthy family functioning to prevent or minimize problems.

Family Life Educators have an understanding of these

### **10 Family Life Education Content Areas:**

1. Families and Individuals in Societal Contexts
2. Internal Dynamics of Families
3. Human Growth and Development Across the Lifespan
4. Human Sexuality
5. Interpersonal Relationships
6. Family Resource Management
7. Parent Education and Guidance
8. Family Law and Public Policy
9. Professional Ethics and Practice
10. Family Life Education Methodology



## Why Be a *Certified* Family Life Educator?

The Certified Family Life Educator (CFLE) credential is the nationally recognized standard in Family Life Education, and it validates your experience and knowledge as a Family Life Educator.

The CFLE credential, which is offered by the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR), can:

- help employers and clients see you as more knowledgeable and qualified
- give you a competitive advantage to attract customers
- increase the breadth of job opportunities available to you
- provide a reason to increase your compensation

Being a CFLE also increases your professional knowledge and keeps you current by providing motivation for you to complete continuing education.

Plus, as a CFLE you'll have access to these great benefits for credential holders through NCFR:

- quarterly newsletter with practice-relevant resources
- online discussion group to connect with other CFLEs
- special reception just for CFLEs at the NCFR conference
- leadership opportunities on CFLE committees

# Why Employers Hire CFLEs

Employers know that by hiring a CFLE, they're bringing in someone with proven knowledge, skills, and abilities. Certified employees can be more effective, require less training, and offer the organization a competitive advantage.

CFLEs bring these qualities and more to the workplace:

- Skills in educational methodology — needs assessment, program evaluation, and more
- Ability to work well with diverse audiences
- Awareness of personal attitudes and cultural values
- Ethical decision-making and behavior
- Skills in problem-solving, interpersonal and written communication, one-on-one work, and group work

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*"The CFLE I supervise is an exceptional educator. She excels in meeting families where they are and helping them to grow into healthier, happier, and more productive members of society."*

*—Child and Family Program Manager, Tennessee*



**Find Out More:**  
[ncfr.org/cfle](http://ncfr.org/cfle)

# EARN THE CREDENTIAL: BECOME A CFLE!

## 2 Ways to Become a CFLE

### **Graduate From a CFLE-Approved Program:**

Graduates of university programs with a CFLE-approved curriculum are eligible to apply to be a CFLE at the provisional level within two years of their graduation.

**Take the CFLE Exam:** Anyone with at least a bachelor's degree can pursue the CFLE credential by taking the CFLE exam.

## 2 Levels of CFLE

**Provisional CFLE:** You have the Family Life Education knowledge, but you don't have enough work experience yet. *Become a provisional CFLE for up to five years while you accumulate work hours to upgrade to full CFLE status.*

**Full CFLE:** You have the Family Life Education knowledge *and* the required work experience.

## Learn More!

Visit [ncfr.org/cfle](https://ncfr.org/cfle), or contact NCFR staff who work with the CFLE credential:

[cfle@ncfr.org](mailto:cfle@ncfr.org) | 888-781-9331

### **About the National Council on Family Relations (NCFR)**

Since 1938, NCFR — which provides the CFLE credential — has been the premier professional association for understanding and strengthening families through interdisciplinary research, theory, and practice.

NCFR publishes three leading Family Science research journals, hosts an annual conference, and provides numerous professional resources to its members and to CFLEs.

## What CFLEs Say

*“The designation of CFLE gives me confidence that I have ‘passed muster’ in this field; it also gives those who hire me confidence that the person they are asking to teach their people is qualified.”*

—Martin Covey, Ph.D., CFLE

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*“As a CFLE, I can get a job doing pretty much anything I want and am not limited (which I really like!). Plus, CFLEs have access to so many resources through NCFR.”*

—Marissa Heim, M.S., CFLE

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*“I feel much more confident offering my services when I explain my certification.”*

—Jeannie P. Buckner, M.S., CFLE

