

# CAREERS @



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DIRECTOR

**What does a career in Assistant Youth Development Director look like at the Y?  
What sort of things do you work on day-to-day?**

My day to day changes based on the need of the staff and children in our programs. I teach preschool in the mornings and spend my afternoons subbing in childcare classrooms as well as performing fire checks to see if we are exceeding standards.

**What do you enjoy about working in Childcare?**

I enjoy problem solving and providing support to my staff and the amazing kids in our programs. My job has given me the privilege to connect with many different people of all ages.

**How did you become qualified to work in Childcare?**

I started working for the YMCA in high school as an after school caregiver and built my skills through hands on learning. I attended NIU for elementary education and I have continued my education through the YMCA receiving childcare certifications.

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## **How do I become a Childcare professional?**

Some positions are available with a high school education. Continuing education is required while working with children. These resources are guided and aided by supervising staff.

## **What will make me more marketable to employers?**

When entering a childcare center, there are crucial qualities that we look for when hiring staff. But as I go through my interview notes and list of potential candidates, the thing that pushed people to the top of the list are those that show that additional initiative. Sending a follow up email after an interview can make a huge difference.

## **What characteristics should someone possess to find success in a career in Childcare?**

To find success in the childcare field, problem solving skills are a need. Each day and each child are different and can be a puzzle to solve. Connecting and communication are a daily necessity to help children grow and thrive.

## **What can I do now to prepare myself for a career in Youth Sports?**

Getting hands on experience will help you to understand your personal skill set, as well as what age group of children you connect with most.