**Section 50.740 Framework for Gateways to Opportunity Credentials**

a) The framework for each Gateways to Opportunity Credential outlines what an applicant (direct route and entitled route) needs to have in order to obtain a credential. Each Credential Framework has four components:

1) General education. An individual's general level of education has been shown to be a strong predictor for high-quality educational practices and services to children, youth and families.

2) Education and training specific to each credential. In order to be strong practitioners, a strong foundation in the fundamentals of coursework specific to each credential is needed.

3) Work and practical experience specific to each credential. On-the-job experience provides a basis for evaluating effective practices.

4) Professional contributions specific to that credential. Effective practitioners demonstrate leadership through active engagement in professional endeavors beyond the scope of their job descriptions.

b) Specific information about the framework components for each credential can be found at: http://www.ilgateways.com/en/gateways-to-opportunity-credentials, or by contacting: Gateways to Opportunity, 1226 Towanda Plaza, Bloomington, Illinois 61701.

c) Review of the Credential Framework

1) The framework for each credential will be reviewed every five years.

2) The review shall include, but not be limited to, the following areas:

A) Alignment with related professional standards;

B) Availability of related coursework statewide; and

C) Relevance of the professional contributions.

(Source: Added at 36 Ill. Reg. 16085, effective October 29, 2012)