CDA Credentialing: A Self-Paced and Candidate Driven Professional Development Process

Overview

1. Prepare
   - 120 hours of Professional Education
   - 480 hours of Professional Experience
   - Professional Portfolio
   - Family Questionnaires

2. Apply
   - Online YourCDA application or paper CDA application
   - Anytime of the year
   - Identify a CDA Professional Development Specialist
   - $425 Assessment Fee
   - Application review and approval
   - Ready to Schedule Notice delivery to the Candidate with a six-months assessment deadline

3. Demonstrate
   - Verification Visit with a CDA Professional Development Specialist
   - Review of documents prepared in step 1 above
   - Observation of Candidate in the classroom
   - Reflective dialogue
   - CDA Exam at a Pearson Vue test center
   - Both completed in any sequence but before a six-month deadline

4. Earn
   - Scores electronically submitted to the Council by PD Specialist and Pearson Vue
   - Credentialing decision