

## CDA® State Fact Sheet IOWA



CDA® Credentials Awarded in  
Iowa: **6,780\***

CDA® Credential Types Awarded in  
Iowa:

Infant-Toddler **1,198\*** | Preschool **4,896\*** |  
Family Child Care **528\*** | Home Visitor **182\***

\*Data since inception of the Council +/- .4% margin of error

### Partnership

The **Iowa Head Start State Collaboration Office** is located in the Department of Education, Division of Learning and Results, Bureau of School Improvement. The Collaboration Office is focused on promoting policy and partnerships that support Iowa's early childhood vision that every child, beginning at birth, is healthy and successful. A priority area for the Head Start Collaboration Office is to work with local partners such as institutions of higher education and professional organizations such as the Council for Professional Recognition to assist in the development of and support for high quality career development opportunities for early childhood educators.

### CDA® Training

- **ProSolutions Training - Iowa:** ProSolutions offers online training for the Infant-Toddler CDA, Preschool CDA, Family Child Care CDA, and Home Visitor CDA, and online CDA Renewal Training.
- **Successful Solutions Professional Development CDA Training:** Successful Solutions offers two Online Training Delivery Methods: self-study and Virtual Classroom. **Iowa** Child Care Courses Options include CDA Credential, CDA Competency, and CDA Renewal training.
- **Care Courses - Iowa CDA Training:** Care Courses CDA training program includes online CDA Credential Training and online CDA Renewal Training.
- **Iowa Child Care Resource & Referral:** All Child Care Resource & Referral trainings correspond with the eight (8) CDA content areas.

### State Scholarship Opportunities and Funding

- **T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Iowa Scholarship Program:** The Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children administers T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Iowa that provides early educators

scholarships to help pay the CDA Assessment Fee. Upon receiving the CDA Credential, recipients are awarded a bonus of \$300 if the CDA is earned with the 12 college credits recommended by the Iowa Community College Alliance. All other recipients receive a \$200 bonus.

## Meet: Sherri Clark – Iowa

*Sherri is a strong advocate for quality child care, and her family child care home serves as a model for what that means. During her 37 years in the business, she has attended many courses to learn new things she can use with children. And the classes that stand out in her mind are those she took while earning her Child Development Associate® (CDA) Credential™.*

*“I use my CDA knowledge in my family child care program every day,” Sherri says. “I follow CDA guidelines for health, safety and the age-appropriate activities that will get children school ready. So, I have the children do a lot of hands-on learning. I show the children how to express themselves through art, music and language. I give them chances to enhance their large and small motor skills. I teach them problem solving, proper behavior and sharing,” she explains.*

*And Sherri also shares her knowledge by serving as an instructor for Child Care Resource and Referral of Southwest Iowa and by joining in many quality improvement efforts funded by the Early Childhood Iowa State Board. “I help train and mentor new providers in my community,” she says. “Having a CDA qualifies me to be a leader in my field.”*

## What is the CDA®?

The Child Development Associate® (CDA) Credential™ is the most widely recognized credential in early childhood education (ECE) and is a key stepping-stone on the path of career advancement in ECE.

The CDA credential is based on a core set of competency standards, which guide early care professionals as they work toward becoming qualified teachers of young children. The Council works to ensure that the nationally transferable CDA is a credible and valid credential, recognized by the profession as a vital part of professional development.

CDAs have knowledge of how to put the CDA Competency Standards into practice and understanding of why those standards help children move with success from one developmental stage to another. Put simply, CDAs know how to nurture the emotional, physical, intellectual, and social development of children.

Earning the CDA credential has many advantages, including exposure to the larger community of early childhood educators. **Over 800,000 CDA credentials have been issued to date!**

Becoming a CDA is a big commitment, but one that creates confident practitioners with command of today's best practices for teaching young children.

## Meet the Council

The Council for Professional Recognition promotes improved performance and recognition of professionals in the early childhood education of children ages birth to 5 years old. The Council recognizes and credentials professionals who work in all types of early care and education settings including Head Start, pre-k, infant and toddler, family child care, and home visitor programs. As a nonprofit organization, the Council sets policies and procedures for assessment and credentialing. For more information, visit [www.cdacouncil.org](http://www.cdacouncil.org).