

CDA® State Fact Sheet KENTUCKY



CDA® Credentials Awarded in
Kentucky: **23,991***

CDA® Credential Types Awarded in
Kentucky:

Infant-Toddler **6,335*** | Preschool **16,734*** |
Family Child Care **662*** | Home Visitor **300***;

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

Partnership

The **Kentucky Head Start State Collaboration Office** is located in the Governor's Office of Early Childhood. The major goals of the Office include defining school readiness in Kentucky as meaning that a child enters school ready to engage in and benefit from early learning experiences that best promote the child's success. 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

- **National CDA Training - Kentucky:** National CDA Training provides Infant-Toddler CDA and Preschool CDA training using a scenario-based method. National CDA Training also offers training for the Infant-Toddler CDA and Preschool CDA renewals.
- **ProSolutions Training - Kentucky:** ProSolutions offers online training for the Infant-Toddler CDA, Preschool CDA, Family Child Care CDA, and Home Visitor CDA, and for CDA Renewal.
- **Successful Solutions Professional Development CDA Training:** Successful Solutions offers two Online Training Delivery Methods: self-study and Virtual Classroom. Kentucky Child Care Courses Options include CDA Credential, CDA Competency, and CDA Renewal training.
- **Care Courses - Kentucky CDA Training:** Care Courses CDA training program includes online CDA Credential Training and online CDA Renewal Training.

State Scholarship Opportunities

Kentucky Division of Child Care: The Division administers non-college scholarships, awards, and mini-grants. The CCC (commonwealth child care credential)/CDA Credential Scholarship Program pays \$420 for 120 clock hours of training on behalf of scholars to an approved training organization. The CDA KIDS NOW mini grant pays \$425 direct assessment fee to the Council for Professional Recognition on behalf of eligible applicants.

Meet: Bonnie Rutherford – Kentucky

Bonnie's goal is to ensure all young children are ready to learn when they enter school. And she knows that depends on skilled teachers, like those who earn a Child Development Associate® (CDA) Credential™. "My passion is to guide rising teachers in getting the right training to care for children in the classroom," Bonnie says. So, she serves as a CDA PD Specialist for the Council and a tutor for ECE students at Bluegrass Community and Technical College.

In these roles, she guides students on key steps in their professional journey. "As a tutor, I am responsible for helping students grasp the course content and know how to put it into practice," she explains. And her support helps students successfully complete the classes needed to earn their CDA. Then, Bluegrass students are ready to take the CDA exam and complete their CDA Verification Visit. At this point, Bonnie steps into her shoes as a PD Specialist and gets to see the results of all her work. "I am always excited as I watch them perform in the classroom on a verification visit," she says. For Bonnie, helping rising teachers reach their goals is a big step toward having every child be ready for school.

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.