

CDA® State Fact Sheet LOUISIANA



CDA® Credentials Awarded in
Louisiana: **23,056***

CDA® Credential Types Awarded in
Louisiana:

Infant Toddler **6,616***; Preschool **16,124***;
Family Child **360***; Home Visitor **24***;

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

Partnership

The **Louisiana Head Start State Collaboration Office** is located in the Department of Education. The Collaboration Office provides a comprehensive, family-focused child development program that offers education, health, parental involvement, and social services for low-income families and their children. 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 - Louisiana:** 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. **Louisiana** Child Care Courses Options include CDA Credential, CDA Competency, and CDA Renewal training.
- **Care Courses - Louisiana CDA Training:** Care Courses CDA training program includes online CDA Credential Training and online CDA Renewal Training.

State Scholarship Opportunities

- **Louisiana Pathways Scholarship Program:** Financial support is available through enrollment and active participation in the Louisiana Pathways Early Learning Center Career Development System in the form of funding toward the CDA Assessment Fee Scholarship and the College Tuition Scholarship

for child care employees taking classes to earn hours towards a CDA at Louisiana Community and Technical Colleges.

Meet: Angel Williams Bell – Louisiana

Quality child care, like the kind Angel provides, really rings the bell for parents. For 25 years, her Little Bell's Childcare has helped children from birth to age five have better math, language and social skills by the time they enter school. They also have less need for special education and higher rates of high school graduation, as several studies have shown.

Research has also shown the central role that teachers play in young learners' success. And teachers have a better chance of giving quality care if they have quality training like Angel does. "I hold a Child Development Associate® (CDA) credential™," she says. "I enjoyed every hour it took to earn my CDA, and I have renewed it several times. Soon I will be getting my associate degree in early childhood development, and my ongoing career goal is to keep bringing the joy of learning to young children. I want every child who crosses my path to know they are loved," Angel says. And besides giving out smiles and hugs to young learners, she wants to pass on the lessons she's learned to providers who might need tips. And that rings all the bells for every person in her community who care about kids.

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.