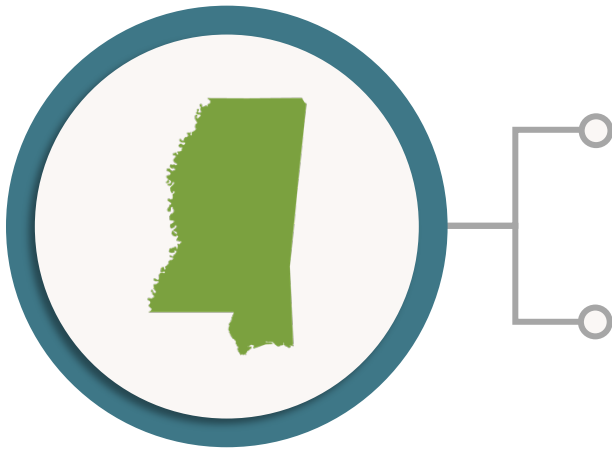


CDA® State Fact Sheet MISSISSIPPI



CDA® Credentials Awarded in
Mississippi: **15,700***

CDA® Credential Types Awarded in
Mississippi:

Infant-Toddler **2,726** | Preschool **12,785** |
Family Child Care **191** | Home Visitor **7**

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

Partnership

The **Mississippi Head Start State Collaboration Office** is located in the Office of the Governor, which assures frequent and significant access to the governor and other key policymakers and planning bodies. Since receiving initial funding in 1997, the collaboration office has enhanced the capacity of Head Start and other early childhood programs and improved outcomes and opportunities for young 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 - Mississippi:** 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. **Mississippi** Child Care Courses Options include CDA Credential, CDA Competency, and CDA Renewal training.
- **Care Courses - Mississippi CDA Training:** Care Courses CDA training program includes online CDA Credential Training and online CDA Renewal Training.
- **Mississippi State University Extension CDA Training:** Upon completion of the certificate program in Childcare and Education, the 120 hours of professional development required by The Council for Professional Recognition in order to obtain the national CDA credential will be met.

State Scholarship Opportunities

- **Teachstone CDA Scholarship:** The Graduate Center for the Study of Early Learning, North MS Resource Referral Center and the Early Childhood Leadership Institute are offering 150 CDA

scholarships to MS childcare providers currently employed in licensed childcare centers (non-Head Start). One hundred (100) slots are for new CDA participants to choose either the Infant/Toddler OR Pre-K age level option with CLASS (“Classroom Assessment Scoring System”) information embedded in the course. Fifty (50) slots are for individuals seeking CDA Renewal with CLASS information embedded in the course.

Meet: Carla Perrio – Mississippi

Carla has seen great changes in her classroom during the four years she’s taught at Gulfport Academy Preschool. These improvements, Carla believes, are a result of earning her Child Development Associate® (CDA) Credential™. Ever since receiving her CDA, Carla has devoted effort and time to running her classroom according to its guidelines. “We now have a routine using pictures and outlining our day to help the children see what is coming next,” she says. “I have also learned different techniques to help the children calm down in stressful situations and express themselves better. And I try harder to teach the whole child by respecting what makes each of my children unique.”

These practical, research-based techniques have also made the rounds in Gulfport Academy classrooms. “My director and I talk on a regular basis about the CDA guidelines I use in my classroom and how we can apply them elsewhere,” Carla explains. And she’s eager to share her knowledge—so much so that she has used some of her personal time to train other teachers on the tactics she learned through her CDA. Now the tips and tools Carla used to change her classroom have led to improvements throughout the center.

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