

## CDA® State Fact Sheet ARKANSAS



CDA® Credentials Awarded in  
Arkansas: **24,976\***

CDA® Credential Types Awarded in  
Arkansas:

Infant-Toddler **5,591\*** | Preschool **18,488\*** |  
Family Child Care **550\*** | Home Visitor **347\***

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

### Partnership

- The **Arkansas Head Start State Collaboration Office** is located in Little Rock as a stand-alone for the Arkansas Head Start Association and is funded through the Department of Human Services, Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education. Major goals of the Office include enhancing and maintaining collaboration and coordination among Head Start, Early Head Start, and Migrant and Seasonal Head Start (MSHS) with child care in order to provide full-day/full-year comprehensive and quality services for 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 – Arkansas:** 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. **Arkansas** Child Care Courses Options include CDA Credential, CDA Competency, and CDA Renewal training.
- **Care Courses – Arkansas CDA Training:** Care Courses CDA training program includes online CDA Credential Training and online CDA Renewal Training.
- **National CDA Training – Arkansas:** 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.

## State Scholarship Opportunities

- **Arkansas Early Childhood Association:** The T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Arkansas Scholarship Program is a licensed program of the Arkansas Early Childhood Association. Teachers may choose to obtain their CDA credential while working on their Associate degree. In this case, the T.E.A.C.H. grant will cover 90% of the cost of the CDA assessment. All CDA coursework must be taken for college credit at an approved Arkansas college.

## 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. **Close to one million 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).