

# CDA® State Fact Sheet DELAWARE



CDA® Credentials Awarded in  
Delaware: **2,067\***

CDA® Credential Types Awarded in  
Delaware:

Infant-Toddler **829** | Preschool **1,152** |  
Family Child Care **76** | Home Visitor **10**

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

## Partnership

- The **Delaware Head Start State Collaboration Office** is located within the Department of Education's Office of Early Learning. The Collaboration Office supports policy, planning, partnerships, and implementation of cross agency systems for early learning that serve the Head Start community. 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 – Delaware:** 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 – Delaware:** ProSolutions offers online training for the Infant-Toddler CDA, Preschool CDA, Family Child Care CDA, and Home Visitor CDA, and for CDA Renewal.
- **Smart Horizons – Delaware:** Smart Horizons offers online CDA Credential Training for the Infant-Toddler setting, Family Child Care or Preschool setting, CDA Credential Training with Portfolio Assistance for the Infant-Toddler and Preschool settings, and CDA Renewal training.
- **Care Courses – Delaware CDA Training:** Care Courses CDA training program includes online CDA Credential Training and online CDA Renewal Training.

- **SafeGard Training Classes Online:** SafeGard offers a CDA Credential training curriculum in **Delaware** for both the initial CDA as well as the CDA renewal.
- **Delaware Institute for Excellence in Early Childhood Professional Development (DIEEC):** DIEEC offers CDA renewal training online, in person, via zoom and self-paced. DIEEC also provides a letter of reference along with the DIEEC training transcript for submission for CDA renewal.

## State Scholarship Opportunities

- **Early Childhood Interim Scholarship Program:** The Interim Scholarship is funded through the Office of Early Learning/Department of Education of Delaware and is administered by Children & Families First. The Scholarship Program pays the coursework and assessment fees for CDA Scholars or tuition and class fees for early childhood professionals earning early childhood college credits while working towards the CDA Credential.
- **T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Delaware Scholarship Program:** The Delaware Association for the Education of Young Children administers T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Delaware that offers the CDA Credential Scholarship to pay the CDA Assessment Fee and provide a bonus upon receipt of the CDA Credential.

## Meet: Kimberly Bolden—Delaware

*William Penn High School in New Castle, DE, has its own chapter of Educators Rising, a career and technical education program that helps students explore paths as professionals and leaders. The students who belong hope to be agents of change, and Kimberly guides them as an advisor with the program and an ECE instructor.*

*Her own path in the ECE field began at Head Start, where she served as a teacher before becoming a director, a role she filled for 22 years. So, she brings a lot of experience to her current work. Kimberly also brings a lot of commitment since she believes “the formative years are the most important years in life,” as she explains.*

*“I always found it exciting to support young children as they grow,” Kimberly says. “Now I have a similar chance to help high schoolers grow by giving them the skills to build careers.” So, Kimberly is excited to be teaching ECE courses that will equip students to earn a Child Development Associate® (CDA) Credential™. And she believes her work will help these future educators rise to be their best. “That’s because students who earn a CDA® have the skills to be agents of change,” she says, “as both professionals and as leaders.”*

## 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.

CDA's 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, CDA's 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).