

Calling All Maryland Early Childhood Educators!

The CDA® has made a meaningful impact in the state of Maryland by advancing career pathways for early childhood educators through recent grants, continued collaboration within the ECE community, and partnership with the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE).

CDA® in Maryland

The CDA is a key stepping stone on the path to career advancement in the early childhood education field in Maryland! Earning a CDA helps early childhood educators achieve Maryland Credential Level Four and qualifies you for the following positions: **(1) Director or teacher** in a child care center or family child care home, **(2) Paraeducator** in public pre-K programs, **(3) Early Head Start teacher**, or a **(4) Head Start assistant teacher**.



Why the CDA®

- 1. The CDA** provides a clear, direct route to competence in the early childhood profession. It gives early childhood teachers the knowledge they need whatever their setting: center-based preschool, infant and toddler, home visitor or family child care.
- 2. The CDA** is the only portable, reciprocal, competency-based, national credential recognized in all U.S. states and territories, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Armed Forces.
- 3. The CDA** is based on a wide range of research from the nation's leading experts in early care and learning. This evidence-based approach helps make the CDA a unique, comprehensive system that provides early childhood teachers—whether they're seasoned or at the start of their careers—with the competencies they need to help young children thrive.
- 4. The CDA** is the only credit-bearing, national credential that articulates to associate degrees in most community colleges across the country.
- 5. The CDA** is the only national, multi-language credential that assesses educators in the language of their daily work.

The first step to earning your CDA credential is **PREPARE**.

The CDA requires 480 hours of on-the-job experience and 120 hours of training.



Learn More About the CDA®

For more information on the CDA® and the general application process, please go to: www.cdacouncil.org/earn

