THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE (CDA) CREDENTIAL



Are you interested in teaching or working with young children but not sure where to start? **The CDA credential is a great first step**. This credential prepares you to work with children from birth through age 5. The CDA prepares you for roles like a GSRP or Head Start teacher, early care and education lead teacher, child care center director and more.

CDA Benefits

The benefits of getting a CDA include:

- Recognized nationally and by the State of Michigan Child Care Licensing.
- Recognized on the state's Career
 Pathway as Professional Level 1.
- Potential for more advanced positions and further education in the field.
- Proves you are ready and qualified to start your career.
- Affordable at \$425 and can be covered up to 100% by the TEACH Early

Credential Requirements

The CDA credential is easy to pursue. You just have to meet the following requirements:

- Be a high school junior or senior enrolled in an early education/child development career and technical education (CTE) program or have a high school diploma.
- 2. Complete **120 hours** of professional education.
- 3. Complete **480 hours** of hands-on experience with young children.
- 4. Prepare a **professional portfolio**, showcasing your work in early childhood education.



Get started today at miaeyc.org/professional-development/cda/.

