

Early Childhood Education, Certificate

CHILD DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE

School of Art, Humanities, Social Sciences and Public Service

Those who wish to further their career and professional development can complete the educational requirements for the nationally recognized CDA for the center-based infant/toddler and preschool credentials. This program provides the educational requirements aligned with the 8 CDA subject areas. After completing the course series, students will have completed all requirements for the Professional Portfolio and will receive advising on how to complete the additional requirements of the Verification Visit and CDA Exam. This program is available in online and lecture formats.

Career Opportunities

Program completers will be eligible for entry-level positions in ECE and are prepared to enter the early childhood workforce on Level A of OCDEL'S Career Pathway. Graduates are qualified for positions as: support staff, teaching staff with support in birth-pre-k settings, and out-of-school care.

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successfully completing this program, students will be able to:

- CDA 1: Plan a safe and healthy learning environment.
- CDA 2 & 3: Advance children's physical, intellectual, and social and emotional development.
- CDA 4: Build productive relationships with families.
- CDA 5: Manage an effective program.
- CDA 6: Maintain a commitment to professionalism.
- CDA 7: Observe and record children's behavior.
- CDA 8: Understand principles of child development and learning.

Program Requirements

Students must achieve a grade of C in all ECE courses to complete this program. Students are required to complete all clearances and requirements per field experience sites.

This program is eligible for funding through the Early Care and Education PDO at PASSHE scholarship, PA TEACH scholarship, and Rising Stars Tuition Assistance Program.

Sugg. Term	Seq #	Course ID	Course Title	Cr	Term Offered	Prereq(s)	Options Available
Fall	1	PDV 101	First Year Seminar	1	F, Sp, Su		
	2	ECE 156	Infant & Toddler Development	3	F, Sp		
	3	ECE 176	CDA Portfolio I	1	F, Sp	Coreq: ECE 156 or 157	
Spring	4	ECE 170	Child Health, Safety & Nutrition	3	Sp		
	5	ECE 177	CDA Portfolio II	1	Sp	Coreq: ECE 170	
	6	Elective	Restricted Elective	3	F, Sp, Su		See List
Summer	7	ECE 256	Assessment & Observation of Young Children	3	F, Su		
	8	ECE 178	CDA Portfolio III	1	F, Su	Coreq: ECE 256	

Total Program Credits

16

Restricted Electives:

ECE 157 Child & Growth Development

ECE 165 Family & Society

ECE 166 Early Childhood Language & Literacy

ECE 167 Creative Experiences

ECE 168 Child Care Management

ECE 255 Early Childhood Education Curriculum

ENG 250 Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

ECE 257 Introduction to Exceptional Development