

## How do I start the process of evaluating my goals and moving toward a CDA or degree?

Those interested should talk with their regional Professional Development Coordinator about available options in your area.

### Region 1 (NW Iowa)

Child Care Resource & Referral  
Mid-Sioux Opportunity, 418 S. Marion St.  
Remsen, IA 51050, (712) 786-3429, (800) 859-2025  
[www.midsioux.org](http://www.midsioux.org)

### Region 2 (NE Iowa)

Child Care Resource & Referral, Exceptional  
Persons, Inc, 3675 University Ave.  
Waterloo, IA 50704-4090, (319) 233-0804  
(800) 475-0804, [www.neiowachildcare.org](http://www.neiowachildcare.org)

### Region 3 (SW/South Central Iowa)

Child Care Resource & Referral,  
West Central Community Action, PO Box 709  
701 10<sup>th</sup> St. Harlan, IA 51537, (712) 755-7381  
(800) 945-9778, [www.swiowachildcare.org](http://www.swiowachildcare.org)

### Region 4 (Central Iowa)

Child Care Resource & Referral, Orchard Place  
Child Guidance Center, 805 5<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Des Moines IA 50309, (515) 246-3591  
(800)722-7619 [www.centraliowachildcare.org](http://www.centraliowachildcare.org)

### Region 5 (SE Iowa)

Child Care Resource & Referral, Community Action  
of Eastern Iowa, 500 East 59<sup>th</sup> St.  
Davenport, IA 52807, (563) 324-3236  
(866) 324-3236, [www.iacommunityaction.org](http://www.iacommunityaction.org)

### You may also contact the CDA coordinator & find out additional program information:

Iowa AEYC  
5525 Meredith Dr Suite F, Des Moines, IA 50310  
(515) 331-8000, (800) 469-2392  
[www.iowaaeyc.org](http://www.iowaaeyc.org)

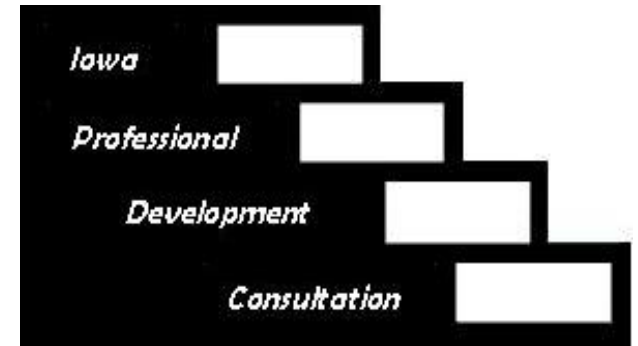
*The Professional Development  
Consultation Project is available to assist  
early childhood practitioners to provide  
quality services through achieving formal  
education and specialized training.*

### This project is supported by:



*Additional agencies partner in the success of this project:  
Iowa AEA, Iowa Community College Early Childhood  
Education Alliance, Iowa Dept. of Education, Iowa Head  
Start, and United Way of Central Iowa.*

## The Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, Iowa's new project (IPDC) and more!



Why do I **need** more education?

Who has **time** and **money**  
to help me?

What is this **new**  
consultation project?

**What** does it  
mean for me?

Why do we **need** it  
in Iowa?

Who can help **me**?

## What is a CDA credential?

The Child Development Associate credential is a nationally recognized credential awarded to infant/toddler child care teachers, preschool teachers, and family child care providers. Candidates must demonstrate competencies through both experience and education in working with children ages birth to five.

## How do I earn a CDA credential?

*In order to receive the CDA credential, an individual must meet the eligibility requirements and complete:*

- ~A professional resource file
- ~Parent opinion questionnaires
- ~A formal observation
- ~An oral interview
- ~A written assessment



## Why should I get the CDA?

This nationally recognized credential will help to increase your knowledge and level of professionalism. You may also receive an increase in wages.

## What are the eligibility requirements?

*Candidates for the CDA must:*

- ~Be 18 years or older
- ~Have a high school diploma or equivalent
- ~Have 480 hours of experience working with young children within the past 5 years
- ~Have 120 hours of formal child care education and training within the last 5 years in the CDA training content areas (contact your local community college)

*The Council for Early Childhood Professional Recognition administers the CDA program.*

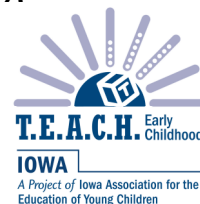
## How long will it take to earn a CDA credential? What will it cost?

Most of your time will be spent receiving 120 clock hours of training. Most people can complete the process in one year or less. Costs include the application packet (\$23), cost of coursework, and the assessment application fee (\$325).

## What kind of support and scholarships does T.E.A.C.H. IOWA provide? Am I eligible?

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® IOWA provides counseling and degree scholarships to help you meet your educational and professional development goals. You may apply for a scholarship to receive credit-bearing CDA coursework, an associate's degree, or a bachelor's degree. T.E.A.C.H. also assists with the CDA application process and fees. Eligible individuals must be working in regulated preschools or child care programs for at least 20 hours per week or when preschool is providing care.

**For more information, call or write:**  
**T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® IOWA**  
**Iowa Association for the**  
**Education of Young Children**  
5525 Meredith Drive, Suite F  
Des Moines, IA 50310  
800.469.2392 [www.iowaaeyc.org](http://www.iowaaeyc.org)



## What is the Iowa Professional Development Consultation Project? Who can help me?

Professional development consulting services are available across Iowa to early care and education practitioners. Call your regional coordinator today for support and guidance with identifying your professional development goals, obtaining a CDA, and completing a college degree in early childhood related fields.

**Ask yourself:**

**Where am I now...**

**Where do I want to be...**

**Do I need money...**



## Why do we need this?

Education is critical to having a quality early care and education workforce because the quality of care is related to both the formal education levels and the specialized early childhood training of teachers (*Tout, Zaslow & Berry, 2006; NCIECPD, 2007*).

The IPDC project is critical to supporting early care and education practitioners in obtaining the knowledge & skills necessary for quality care.

The CDA meets requirements in programs such as Shared Visions, Title I, ECSE, & Head Start; also, directors & teachers of child care centers and home providers for the Quality Rating System (QRS) with the Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS); & practitioner qualifications for accreditation.