

What is a CDA?

A Child Development Associate is an individual who has successfully completed a CDA assessment and has been awarded the CDA Credential. She/he is able to meet the specific needs of children and works with parents and other adults to nurture children's physical, social, emotional, and intellectual growth in a child development framework.

A CDA is an individual who has demonstrated competence in her/his ability to meet the CDA Competency Goals through her/his work in a center-based, home visitor or family child care program. In addition, an individual who has demonstrated competence in meeting bilingual CDA criteria is a CDA with a Bilingual Specialization.



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Child Development Associate



You can make a difference in the early care and education of young children in Arkansas.



870-239-0969

COLLEGE MISSION

*Black River Technical College
is an institution of higher
learning committed to a
partnership with the individual
and the global community to
provide lifelong learning
experiences, seeking always
to empower those it services
to achieve their vocational
and personal development
goals.*

Class Description:

CDA is a 1 semester or 9 credit hour class that meets on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 5:30 pm - 9:45 pm during our Fall (Aug - Dec) and Spring (Jan - May) semesters only, scholarships available to those who qualify. Upon successful completion you will be eligible to take the National Assessment Exam for your National Credential. Scholarships also available to qualifying persons taking the National Exam.

To become a CDA you must meet These eligibility requirements:

- ◆ Be 18 years of age or older
- ◆ Hold a high school diploma or GED
- ◆ Have 480 hours of experience working with children within the past five years
- ◆ Be able to speak, read, and write well enough to fulfill the responsibility of a CDA Candidate
- ◆ Have completed 120 clock hours of formal child care education in the eight CDA subject areas.



Select a CDA Setting.

Persons wishing to seek a CDA Credential must select one of the following settings for CDA Assessment:

- ◆ **Center-based preschool** – licensed or registered child care center serving children aged 3 through 5 years



- ◆ **Center based infant/toddler setting** – licensed or registered child care center serving children aged under 3
- ◆ **Family child care setting** – licensed or registered family child care home serving children 5 years old or younger
- ◆ **Bilingual setting** – child care program that has specific goals for achieving bilingual development in children and in which two languages are consistently used in daily activities

CDA Subject Areas:

- ◆ Planning a safe, healthy learning environment.
- ◆ Steps to advance children's physical and intellectual development.
- ◆ Positive ways to support children's social And emotional development.
- ◆ Strategies to establish productive relationships with families.
- ◆ Strategies to manage an effective program operation.
- ◆ Maintaining a commitment to professionalism.
- ◆ Observing and recording children's behavior.
- ◆ Principles of child growth and development.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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