



Certificate in Child Development Associate

Program Overview

Do you work for Head Start or childcare? Are you an assistant teacher looking to expand your knowledge of early childhood education? Would you like information on how to best meet the needs of young children and their families?

Offered in partnership with the New York Early Childhood Professional Development Institute (PDI), the **Certificate in Child Development Associate (CDA)** is the only comprehensive credit-bearing CDA certificate of its kind in New York City. The program provides students with the advisement, writing, portfolio creation, career services, and classroom observation skills needed to create effective learning environments for children.

Courses for this program are offered on campus.

Career Prospects

The certificate is designed for students who intend to pursue advanced study in early childhood education or a related discipline, and for those who will seek employment or career advancement upon completion of an undergraduate degree program.

Students In The Program Will:

- ▶ **Demonstrate** The use of the developmental perspective in their work with young children and families.
- ▶ **Support** second-language learners and children with special needs in early childhood education programs effectively.
- ▶ **Examine** and **Reflect** on their teaching, both orally and in writing.
- ▶ **Apply** effective classroom practices and create developmentally appropriate learning environments.
- ▶ **Use** Strategies and techniques to strengthen connections between their centers and children's homes.
- ▶ **Use** skills and resources to assist parents in caring effectively for their children.

Curriculum

4 Courses (12 Credits)

120 hours of supervised fieldwork per course is required.

The structure and curriculum of the CDA Certificate are designed to complement the Child Development Associate National Credentialing Program's Competency.

Credits earned through the successful completion of these CDA courses may also be applied to degree programs, thus establishing the foundation for career advancement.

Courses

- ▶ Child Development Birth – 5 Years
- ▶ Observing and Recording Development of the Young Child
- ▶ Integrated Curriculum and Learning Environments
- ▶ Program, Professional, and Family Dynamics

Admissions Requirements

Candidates for admission to undergraduate level certificate programs must possess a high school diploma or a High School Equivalency diploma from New York State (also known as TASC or GED). Applicants are required to submit a personal statement. Current employment and background as an assistant teacher is an advantage but not essential for admission.

The CUNY School of Professional Studies is regionally accredited through the Middle States Commission on Higher Education.

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