Child Development Associate (CDA) to Certified Childcare Professional (CCP)

Area of Focus	Council for Professional Recognition **National CDA**	National Early Childhood Program Accreditation **National CCP**
Issuer	Issued by the Council for Professional Recognition, Washington DC; Offered throughout the US at public and private agencies and online.	Issued by the National Early Childhood Program Accreditation (NECPA), Washington DC; Offered throughout the US and internationally at public and private agencies.
Training Hours	120 hours of formal child care education within the last five years; may or may not include state mandated training. ● Minimum of 10 hours in each of the 8 required subject areas. Education may be for in-service, CEUs, college credit or non-college credit. Contact hours must be documented on transcript, certificate or letter. ● May not use training obtained at conferences.	150 hours of formal child care education within the last five years; may or may not include state mandated training. ● Minimum of 15 hours in each of the 9 required subject area abilities. ● Education may be for in service, CEUs, college credit or non-college credit. Contact hours must be documented on transcript, certificate or letter.
Content Areas	8 Competency Areas: ● Planning a safe, healthy, supportive, and respectful learning environment. ● Steps to advance children's physical and intellectual development. ● Positive ways to support and promote children's social and emotional development. ● Strategies to establish productive, positive. relationships with families. ● Strategies to manage effective program operations.	9 Ability Areas: ● The ability to establish and maintain a safe, nurturing, purposeful learning environment. ● The ability to promote children's physical, cognitive, social and emotional development. ● The ability to create a purposeful learning environment through curriculum and content. ● The ability to create an inclusive and culturally

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	● Maintaining a commitment to professionalism. ● Observing and recording children's behavior including an understanding of screening and assessment. ● Principles of child growth and development.	responsive learning environment. ● The ability to engage in effective management of learning environments. ● The ability to maintain a commitment to professional development and leadership. ● The ability to use assessment planning of learning opportunities and documentation of outcomes. ● The ability to demonstrate knowledge of child development theory research and practice. ● The ability to demonstrate computer literacy and promote learning through Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (STEAM).
Work Experience Hours	480 hours of experience working with children within the last five years; and/or while enrolled in the training program.	720 hours of experience working with children within the last five years; and/or while enrolled in the training program.
Area(s) of Specialization	Specialization areas available (each are separate credentials): ● Center Based Preschool ● Infant-Toddler ● Family Child Care ● Home Visitor	The CCP is valid for work in the following subfields without the necessity of a separate certificate: ● Center Based Preschool ● Infant-Toddler ● Family Child Care ● Home Visitor

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Early Childhood Portfolio	● Professional Portfolio (PP) completed by candidate ● Resource Collection ● Parent Opinion Questionnaires ● Teaching Philosophy Statement	● Professional Development Portfolio completed by candidate ● Resource Collection ● Parent and Director Letters of Recommendation ● Professional Development Plans.
Additional Requirements	● Enrolling as a junior or senior in a high school CTE ECE program is required. ● 18 years of age or older if not enrolled in the above program. ● Sign Ethical Conduct Statement ● Conditional in-person Observation/ Verification Visit based on Exam Results. ● Oral interview conducted by Council Representative. ● Early Childhood Studies review conducted by Council Representative.	● High school diploma/equivalent OR active enrollment as a junior or senior in a high school CTE ECE program. ● 18 years of age or older (unless enrolled in CTE ECE program). ● Two letters of endorsement (Director and Colleague). ● Two writing samples documenting the use of writing skills in professional activities. ● Plans for continued professional development. ● Observation conducted by NCCA/NECPA Field Counselor. ● National Early Childhood Education specialist credentialing exam. ● Portfolio review by the NCCA/NECPA Professional Standards Council (PSC).
Reciprocity	Valid in the US (likely that states would require additional specific training on the unique rules and regulations, etc. of each state).	Valid in the United States. Several CCP holders currently live and work abroad.

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Renewal Requirements	● Must be renewed every 3 years. ● Letter of recommendation from Early Childhood Education Reviewer. ● Proof of current First Aid Certification. ● Proof of 4.5 CEUs or 3 College –Credit hours in early childhood education. ● Within the past year, have a minimum of 8- hours work experience with young children and families. ● Proof of Membership in a National or Local Early Childhood Professional Organization.	● Must be renewed every 3 years. ● Proof of 3.6 CEUs or 36 clock hours in early childhood education, or equivalent.