

# Child Development Associate (CDA)

**Aligned Program of Study:** Early Childhood Education Careers

## Description

The Child Development Associate (CDA)<sup>™</sup> is the most widely recognized credential in early childhood education (ECE) and is a key stepping-stone on the path of career advancement in ECE. The Child Development Associate (CDA)<sup>™</sup> is based on a core set of competency standards, which guide early care professionals as they work toward becoming qualified teachers of young children. The Council works to ensure that the nationally transferable CDA is a credible and valid credential, recognized by the profession as a vital part of professional development. CDAs know how to put the CDA Competency Standards into practice and an understanding of why those standards help children move with success from one developmental stage to another. Put simply, CDAs know how to nurture the emotional, physical, intellectual, and social development of children. Earning the Child Development Associate (CDA)<sup>™</sup> has many advantages, including exposure to the larger community of early childhood educators. Over 370,000 educators have received their CDA to date!

## Certification Information

Test Owner

Council for Professional Recognition

2460 16<sup>th</sup> Street NW

Washington, DC 20009-3547

Phone: (800) 424-4310

Website: <https://www.cdacouncil.org/credentials/apply-for-cda>

## Testing Sites/Centers

To locate a Pearson Vue Testing Center in your area, use the [Pearson Vue Comp TIA Test Locator](#)

Additionally, any high school or post-secondary institution can [enroll](#) with Pearson Vue to become a testing center.

## Preparing to offer the certification

### Exam Details

The test consists of a maximum of 65 multiple choice questions and takes approximately 125 minutes to complete.

## Vendor

TDOE does not currently have a data-sharing agreement with Pearson VUE, therefore the burden of proof to provide evidence of earning the certification will be on the school system.	
Vendor	Contact Information
Pearson VUE	<a href="https://home.pearsonvue.com/Test-takers/Customer-service.aspx">Pearson Vue</a> <a href="https://home.pearsonvue.com/Test-takers/Customer-service.aspx">https://home.pearsonvue.com/Test-takers/Customer-service.aspx</a>