

The Early Childhood Development Workforce

This session will focus on preparing teachers to address career opportunities in the Human Service cluster, industry credentials, non-traditional careers, equity and structured learning experiences.



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Planning a Career in the Field of Early Childhood Development (ECD)

To prepare for any new adventure, you have to start at the beginning, decide where you want to go, how you will get there, and what you will need along the way.

Building a strong foundation as a classroom teacher is a valuable first step in the career ladder.

Inspiring Future Workers: Why is Early Childhood Development important?

The first years of a child's life create the foundation for a child's health, emotional wellbeing and intellectual growth.

Providing high-quality early care and education is critically important to enable children to learn and savor the building blocks of life.



As students of Early Childhood Development

They will learn how children develop and what their educational needs are at each stage of their lives.

Studies include children's literature, learn how to teach the fundamentals of math, reading and science to young children, and value the importance and significance of play.

So you want to be an early childhood professional?

- ▶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I0sPa0SL2vo>
- ▶ The hardest parts of working in childcare are described in this brief movie.



Candidates should consider an Early Childhood career if they:

- Appreciate the wonders of childhood discovery
- Seek and value your own continued self-discovery
- Are creative and energetic
- Are interested in the various ways children learn
- Have a desire to strengthen individuals, families and your community
- Have natural leadership skills and thrive on new challenges every day

Careers Pathways and Systems in Early Childhood Development and Services

With a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, associates degree in Child Development BA degree or units in ECE, you can work in a variety of settings, such as child care programs, NAEYC accredited centers, Head Start, Early Head Start, Family Child Care, public schools, faith based programs, non-profit sector, medical and health related services and social service agencies.

Careers may include direct work with children, supervision and staff training, support and training to parents and other caregivers or working in community out reach

Sample ECD Academic Ladder

Step 1

High School Child Development Courses can transfer to CDA / towards 2 yr associates degree in NJ?

Step 2

1 year Community College Child Development Certificate

Step 3

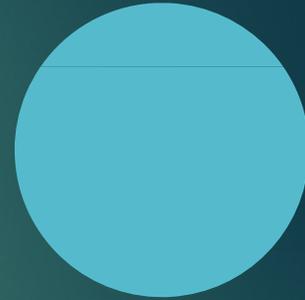
CDA - Child Development 2 year Associates Degree -

Step 4

Undergraduate BA ECE Degree

Step 6

MA - PHD



Jobs in the Child Care Industry

Job Opportunities

- ▶ • Child Care Administrator/Director
- ▶ • Children's Museum Project Coordinator
- ▶ • Coach
- ▶ • Nanny
- ▶ • Playground Aide
- ▶ Infant Toddler Teacher and Preschool Teacher
- ▶ • Elementary School Aide - Teacher
- ▶ • Family Child Care Provider

Job Opportunities

- ▶ • Home Visitor
- ▶ • Family Services Worker
- ▶ • Disabilities Specialist
- ▶ • Nutritionist
- ▶ • Human Resources Specialist
- ▶ • Social Services Coordinator
- ▶ • Parent Educator
- ▶ • Resource and Referral Specialist
- ▶ • Community Care Licensing Analyst
- ▶ Early Interventionist



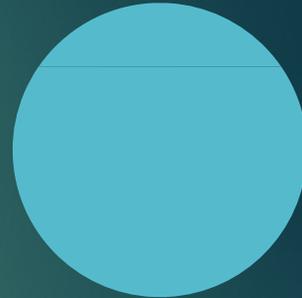
Sample ECD Career Ladder

Steps

- ▶ **STEP 1**
- ▶ Teacher Aide - Assistant
- ▶ **Step 2**
- ▶ Pre K Teacher
- ▶ Infant Toddler Teacher
- ▶ Family Child Care Provider
- ▶ **Step 3**
- ▶ Master Level /Lead Teacher

Steps

- ▶ **Step 4**
- ▶ Program Director
- ▶ Assistant Director
- ▶ Education Manager
- ▶ **Step 5**
- ▶ University Professor
- ▶ College Instructor
- ▶ Public Administrator
- ▶ Training



Gender Diversity in the Workforce Supporting Males in the Early Childhood Setting

<http://www.menteach.org>



Men in Childcare

A brilliant career that's not
just for girls



CDA Credential Council for Professional Recognition

<http://www.cdacouncil.org/yourcda>

First High School Student Earns Her CDA

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L37zRXOfEJ0&index=10&list=UUMOiB_0eJvyMC6LnFGaVmAA

CDA Requirements

- 120 hours of Professional Education
- 480 hours of Professional Experience
- Professional Portfolio
- Family Questionnaires
- How long does it take?

Structured Learning Experiences Continued..

- Practicums
- Field experience
- Internships
- Job Shadowing
- Working in the classrooms
- Observing children
- Planning and facilitating learning activities
- Home Visits

Center for the Childcare Workforce

http://www.ccw.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=122&Itemid=48

The following information includes the most recent available [early childhood workforce data](#) on average early childhood wages compiled by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Information on hourly wages of child care workers, preschool, kindergarten and elementary teachers is provided. (2011)

[Comparison of Mean Hourly Wages of Early Childhood Educators with Mean Hourly Wages of Other Teachers](#)

[Ranking of Child Care Worker Hourly Wages](#)

[Ranking of Preschool Teacher Hourly Wages](#)

[Hourly Wages for Child Care Workers and preschool workers](#)

Creating Professional Development Plans

Including Short and long Term Goals

Academic

Personal

Time Lines

Strengths and areas for growth and development

Child Care Job Banks – Job Placement Options

Guiding High School Students

Entry level positions

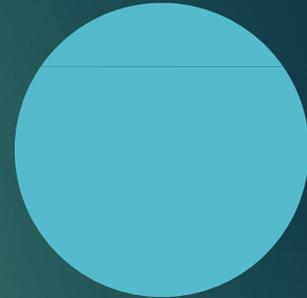
Navigating the Industry

Pros and Cons of different child care programs

Licensed child care

Job Placement continued

Registered Family Child Care
Faith Based Programs
Head Start - Early Head Start
NAEYC Accredited
Universal Pre K
College Campus Child Development Lab Schools



Wrap Up Closure



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