Welcome to today’s
“Texas CDA 2.0 in High School”
Information Session

New books now available!
Our Partnership!

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High School Students and the CDA

In 2011, guided by the belief that a commitment to professionalism can begin as early as high school, the Council began allowing high school juniors and seniors enrolled in Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs to earn their Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential™.

Students must meet the following requirements:

- Be enrolled as a junior or senior in a high school Family and Consumer Sciences program in the area of Education and Early Childhood.
- Be able to speak, read and write well enough to fulfill the responsibilities of a CDA Candidates.
- Like all CDA Candidates, students must have completed the entire 120 clock hours of child development education and the entire 480 hours of experience working directly with children before sending their application to the Council

Partnering With the Council

A partnership with the Council for Professional Recognition provides Family and Consumer Sciences programs with a support system to guide students who aspire to be early child care professionals through the Child Development Associate (CDA) National Credentialing Program™.

Benefits of Partnering:

- On-going professional development support for Family and Consumer Sciences State Administrators, high school instructors and facilitators implementing the Child Development Associate Program.
- Special discount on CDA publications (Essentials Textbook and Competency Standards).
- An assigned Council staff person in the Finance Department to support your purchasing requests.
- Ability to track the status of candidate applications and credentialing.
- Customized High School CDA webinars to discuss individual timelines for meeting your high school program objectives.
Tips for High School Early Childhood Career/Technical Programs Preparing Students for the CDA Credential

Application Materials
- Order a Competency Standards Book for each student in the appropriate setting. It is strongly suggested that the school administrator order materials one month in advance of your program.

Documentation Students Need to Prepare
- As part of their documentation collection requirements, Candidates must:
  - Distribute and collect Family Questionnaires
  - Prepare a Professional Portfolio

All documents must be no older than six months when the application is sent to the Council. Please do not send any of these materials directly to the Council. Each candidate must hold on to these documents to present them to the PDS Specialist.

- In addition, as part of the Verification Visit, Students must:
  - Be observed by a Professional Development Specialist working with children
  - Be prepared to participate in reflective dialogue regarding their work with young children
  - Schedule their CDA Exam at a Pearson Vue Testing Center

Preparation for Family and Consumer Sciences High School Instructors and Administrators
- Your role as an instructor or administrator will include the following:
  - Ensure that your student receives professional development training to meet the 120 hour education requirement
  - Assisting your students with applying on-line to start the assessment process.
  - Applying to serve as Professional Development Specialist (http://www.cdacouncil.org/cda-pd-specialists)
  - Assist your student with finding a Pearson Vue Testing Center
  - Ensure that your student has an active email account that is checked on regular basis

Assessment Fee
- The assessment fee is $325 per Candidate (assessment will change effective September 1 to $425). Fees must be included with each application. If applicable, Candidate’s should apply on-line using the Your CDA application.

- If your school administration is paying for one or more candidate’s assessment, please consider opening up an advance account.

Time Frame
- Upon receiving the “Ready to Schedule” Notice from the Council, the Candidate has six months from that date to complete the Verification Visit and the CDA Exam.
- Please ensure that your application has the code HS/ CTE under section #2 (type of program).
Candidate’s knowledge and competencies will be determined using two factors:

- **CDA Exam**
  - 65-question test of ECE practice knowledge, taken at a local testing center

- **Verification Visit - The R. O. R. Model™**
  - Review of Professional Portfolio, transcripts/certificates, Family Questionnaires
  - Direct Observation of competencies
  - Reflective Dialogue – Candidate’s areas of strength and growth

Both the CDA Exam and Verification Visit Comprehensive Scoring Instrument were designed using the CDA Competency Goals and Functional Areas, which will remain unchanged.
Step 1: Anytime before Application

“CDA 2.0” Credentialing Process

Minimum of high school diploma/GED
or
Enrolled in a Career and Technical High School

120 hours of education in 8 Subject Areas
Step 2: Before Application

“CDA 2.0”
Credentialing Process
(within 3 years)

480 hours of experience
Step 3: **Within Six Months before Application**

“CDA 2.0”
Credentialing Process

Professional Portfolio completed by Candidate

Family Questionnaires (FQ) gathered by the Candidate

Find a PD Specialist
Step 4: **Application**

“CDA 2.0”
Credentialing Process

Candidate sends to the Council:

- Application
- Fee

- Candidate receives approval that application is complete and fee was processed
Step 5: Council Approval of Completed Application

“CDA 2.0”
Credentialed Process

Verification Visit conducted by CDA Professional Development Specialist (chosen by Candidate):

• Review of PP, FQs, transcripts/Certificates
  • Observation
  • Reflective Dialogue

• Candidate takes CDA Exam at a local PearsonVUE center
Step 6: After Verification Visit

“CDA 2.0”
Credentialing Process

Professional Development Specialist sends Verification Visit scores to the Council online

PearsonVue sends exam scores to the Council online
Step 7: Council awards or denies CDA Credential

Upon completion of the Exam, the Candidate’s scores in each of the 13 CDA Functional Areas will be immediately transmitted to the Council.

Based on their findings from the Verification Visit, the PD Specialist will submit their Recommended Scores to the Council online.

The Council will then combine the two sets of scores into a final Cumulative Score which will determine Candidate credentialing.
CDA 2.0 Credentialing Process

CDA 2.0 Credentialing Process Sequence

Candidate: Preparation → Candidate: CDA Application → Council: Approval of CDA Application

Candidate & PD Specialist: Review
Observation Reflection

Candidate & Pearson VUE: CDA Exam

Council: Credentialing Decision
Useful Resources

www.cdacouncil.org
For More Information

Sign Up for the CounciLINK Newsletter

Be sure to keep up with all the news from the Council. CounciLINK, our monthly newsletter, is our primary way to provide you with the most current information you need to succeed! If you are not yet on our emailing list, please sign up: www.cdacouncil.org/newsletter.

Email Us

Have other CDA 2.0-related questions or concerns?
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