

Month	 Course lessons Complete the following:	 Required & recommended reading Read and complete the following:	 Professional Portfolio Complete the following:
Month 1	CDA Get Started Tutorial CDA 1 Tutorial CDA 1 Core lessons 5 lessons, 10 hours	<i>CDA Competency Standards</i> book – Introduction and Parts 1 & 2 <i>Essentials for Working with Young Children</i> – Introduction and Competency Standard I <i>Essentials Workbook</i> – Introduction, Competency Standard I Better Kid Care Readings – CDA Subject Area 1	My CDA Cover Sheet RC I (1-3) CS 1
Month 2	CDA Tutorial 2 CDA 2 Core lessons 5 lessons, 10 hours	<i>Essentials for Working with Young Children</i> – Competency Standard II <i>Essentials Workbook</i> – Competency Standard II Better Kid Care Readings – CDA Subject Area 2	RC II (1-9) CS II
Month 3	CDA Tutorial 3 CDA 3 Core lessons 5 lessons, 10 hours	<i>Essentials for Working with Young Children</i> – Competency Standard III <i>Essentials Workbook</i> – Competency Standard III Better Kid Care Readings – CDA Subject Area 3	RC III CS III
Month 4	CDA Tutorial 4 CDA 4 Core lessons 5 lessons, 10 hours	<i>Essentials for Working with Young Children</i> – Competency Standard IV <i>Essentials Workbook</i> – Competency Standard IV Better Kid Care Readings – CDA Subject Area 4	RC IV (1-4) CS IV
Month 5	CDA Tutorial 5 CDA 5 Core lessons 5 lessons, 10 hours	<i>Essentials for Working with Young Children</i> – Competency Standard V <i>Essentials Workbook</i> – Competency Standard V Better Kid Care Readings – CDA Subject Area 5	RC V CS V
Month 6	CDA Tutorial 6 CDA 6 Core lessons 5 lessons, 10 hours	<i>Essentials for Working with Young Children</i> – Competency Standard VI <i>Essentials Workbook</i> – Competency Standard VI Better Kid Care Readings – CDA Subject Area 6	RC VI CS VI (1-3)
	Access CDA Course	Access CDA Required Coursework	Access Professional Portfolio How-to Guide

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Month 7	CDA Tutorial 7 CDA 7 Core lessons 5 lessons, 10 hours	CDA <i>Competency Standards</i> book – Part 3 <i>Essentials for Working with Young Children</i> – Review Competencies I-VI <i>Essentials Workbook</i> – Review Competencies I-VI Better Kid Care Readings – CDA Subject Area 7	Outline and begin to write your Professional Philosophy Statement Review Professional Portfolio work Review NAEYC Code of Ethical Conduct
Month 8	CDA Tutorial 8 CDA 8 Core lessons 5 lessons, 10 hours	CDA <i>Competency Standards</i> book – Review Parts 1-3 <i>Essentials for Working with Young Children</i> – Review and finish reading <i>Essentials Workbook</i> – Review and finish reading Better Kid Care Readings – CDA Subject Area 8	Finish your Professional Philosophy Statement Review Professional Portfolio work Review NAEYC Code of Ethical Conduct
Month 9	CDA Electives Select 5 lessons, 10 hours	CDA <i>Competency Standards</i> book – Review CDA Checklist & Part 3 <i>Essentials for Working with Young Children</i> – Review and finish reading <i>Essentials Workbook</i> – Review and finish reading Better Kid Care Readings – Review and finish	Begin to organize Professional Portfolio items (as directed in CDA <i>Competency Standards</i> book)
Month 10	CDA Electives Select 5 lessons, 10 hours	CDA <i>Competency Standards</i> book – Review CDA checklist & Part 3 (including all forms) <i>Essentials for Working with Young Children</i> – Review and finish reading <i>Essentials Workbook</i> – Review and finish reading Better Kid Care Readings – Review and finish	Organize Professional Portfolio and review the My CDA Professional Portfolio checklist in CDA <i>Competency Standards</i> book
Month 11	CDA Electives Select 5 lessons, 10 hours	CDA <i>Competency Standards</i> book – Review CDA checklist & Part 3 (including all forms) <i>Essentials for Working with Young Children</i> – Review and finish reading <i>Essentials Workbook</i> – Review and finish reading Better Kid Care Readings – Review and finish	Complete your Professional Portfolio and review the My CDA Professional Portfolio checklist in CDA <i>Competency Standards</i> book
	Access CDA Course	Access CDA Required Coursework	Access Professional Portfolio How-to Guide

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Month 12	CDA Electives Select 5 lessons, 10 hours CDA Get Ready to Finish Tutorial CDA Course completed!	CDA <i>Competency Standards</i> book – Review CDA checklist & Part 3 (including all forms) <i>Essentials for Working with Young Children</i> – Review and finish reading <i>Essentials Workbook</i> – Review and finish reading Better Kid Care Readings – Review and finish	Complete your Professional Portfolio and review the My CDA Professional Portfolio checklist in CDA <i>Competency Standards</i> book Review your CDA Checklist to prepare for next steps
Get Ready to Apply	Review CDA Get Ready to Finish Tutorial to help with next steps	CDA <i>Competency Standards</i> book – Review CDA checklist and Part 3 to plan next steps <i>Essentials for Working with Young Children</i> – Review <i>Essentials Workbook</i> – Review the “Test Your Knowledge” sections to practice for CDA Exam	Review the Council for Professional Recognition’s website to help you prepare for CDA Application, Verification Visit, and CDA Exam. www.cdacouncil.org
	Access CDA Course	Access CDA Required Coursework	Access Professional Portfolio How-to Guide

Required Reading

- Council for Professional Recognition. 2013. *The Child Development Associate National Credentialing Program® and CDA Competency Standards: Family Child Care Edition*. Washington, DC: Council for Professional Recognition.
- Council for Professional Recognition. 2013. *The Child Development Associate National Credentialing Program® and CDA Competency Standards: Infant-Toddler Edition*. Washington, DC: Council for Professional Recognition.
- Council for Professional Recognition. 2013. *The Child Development Associate National Credentialing Program® and CDA Competency Standards: Preschool Edition*. Washington, DC: Council for Professional Recognition.
- Council for Professional Recognition, and Valora Washington, ed. 2017. *Essentials for Working with Young Children. 2nd ed.* Washington, DC: Council for Professional Recognition.
- Council for Professional Recognition, and Valora Washington, ed. 2017. *Essentials Workbook. 2nd ed.* Washington, DC: Council for Professional Recognition.



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