

Tips for Completing your CDA with ChildCareEd

We are so excited you have made the decision to further your education and are honored you have chosen ChildCareEd as your training partner. We are here to support you in obtaining your CDA Credential and look forward to working with you.

In order to support you in this process ChildCareEd recommends that you allot 15 hours per week to complete your training. For example:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 hours	1 hour	1 hour	1 hour	1 hour	1 hour	5 hours

This will allow you to complete your training and obtain your CDA Credential in record time!

15 hours per week x 8 weeks= 120 hours

15 hours per week x 2 weeks= 30 hours

As you know, you are required to complete a **Professional Portfolio** prior to applying for your CDA Credential. If you do not already have your **CDA Competency Standards Book** from the CDA Council please do that now. You will need to have this when completing your Portfolio.

We recommend that you work on collecting evidence and materials required for your Portfolio as you are completing your training. Along with your training, you will notice that you have access to a variety of valuable resources.

To access these resources click on the **View Course Handouts** button when viewing the trainings in your account.

The screenshot shows the ChildCareEd user interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the ChildCareEd logo and links for 'MORE', 'About', 'CDA', 'Contact Us', 'Social', 'Accreditations', and 'Free Resources'. A search bar and user profile 'Heather' are also visible. A yellow notification banner asks the user to complete their profile. Below this are buttons for 'My Trainings', 'Messages Us', 'My profile', and 'Cart'. The main content area displays a grid of course cards. The first row includes '2- Creating the Natural Outdoor Classroom', 'CDA Infant/Toddler Credential', and '45 Hours Director-Administration'. The second row includes 'Prevention of Shaken Baby Syndrome and Abusive Head Trauma'. Each card shows the course title, 'Online' status, purchase date and time, and options to 'Continue From Where I left off' or 'Restart from the beginning'. A blue button labeled 'View Course Handouts' is present at the bottom of each card, with a red circle highlighting the button for the 'CDA Infant/Toddler Credential' course.



Among these resources, you will find a checklist of all the items you must complete before applying for your CDA Credential as well as our **Creating the CDA Professional Portfolio Handbook**. This handbook will walk you through each step of building your Portfolio and provides examples of some of the documents you will need to include.

For an additional fee, ChildCareEd provides an opportunity to have a live meeting with one of our endorsed CDA PD Specialists to answer any questions you may have regarding the Professional Portfolio. These are live Zoom meetings that will last about one hour.

As you begin your training please feel free to use the **Message Us** button within your course to ask questions or share feedback with a course instructor.

Benefits of nature

To support the development of the whole child, early childhood educators understand that children learn everywhere and all the time. Instead of developmentally inappropriate early academics, children need a variety of learning experiences and opportunities to grow in areas such as science, mathematics, executive function, gross and fine motor development, social-emotional development, language development, and creative expression.

Research has shown that outdoor learning can have a significant impact on children's mental health and academic performance. Children are often calmer and better able to focus when learning in nature, and teachers have reported more positive behavior and social interactions. In addition, when children spend time outdoors they are able to recognize the importance of a connection to the natural world and develop a desire to value and care for the natural environment as they get older and throughout their lives.



Of course you can always give us a call at [\(833\)283-2241](tel:8332832241) (2TEACH1) or send us an email if you have any questions.

You will also notice the Select Language option at the bottom of the training page where you are able to have all text translated into another language.

From ChildCareEd to you, Congratulations and You Got This!!!!

