

# OKLAHOMA'S EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS

## Training, Certificates, Credentials, and Degrees

Below is a sample of professional development opportunities that may be available in your area.

- 1** To determine how these or other professional development opportunities might apply to your early care and education professional development plan, check with your director; your Oklahoma Department of Human Services, Oklahoma Child Care Services (OKDHS OCCS) Licensing Specialist; or your OCCS Reaching for the Stars Consultation and Technical Support Specialist (CATSS). Contact the agency sponsoring the training for more information.
- 2** Choose the option that is best suited for your professional development goal. Some options may count for one or more of the following: licensing staff requirements, Child Development Associate (CDA) education (in the eight competency areas), clock training hours, continuing education units (CEUs), college credit, ongoing professional development, REWARD Oklahoma, the Oklahoma Director's Credential, the Early Care and Education Professional Development Ladder, and/or Reaching for the Stars. (Note: Not all professional development opportunities are equal in content, cost, or skill outcome.)

### TRAINING PROVIDERS (Include but are not limited to the following)

#### Center for Early Childhood Professional Development (CECPD)

888.446.7608 • 405.799.6383 • [www.cecpd.org](http://www.cecpd.org)

Professional development opportunities include: Child Care Careers courses, Leadership Academy, Leadership Academy Institute for Directors, Directors Series Training, Creating Effective Learning Environments, Early Learning Guidelines, Focused Portfolios, Literacy in Action series, specialized training on a variety of topics, Entry Level Child Care Training (ELCCT), and the Video Lending Library.

#### Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH)

800.522.0203 • 405.271.5600 • [www.ok.gov/health](http://www.ok.gov/health)

Training available on special needs; nutrition counseling; Women, Infants and Children Supplemental Nutrition Program (WIC); developmental screening and therapy; parent education; and the Child Care Warmline (888.574.5437) for behavior and development, care and safety, health topics, and child care consultation for facilities experiencing challenging behaviors in the classroom.

#### Oklahoma Child Care Resource & Referral Association (OCCRRA)

888.962.2772 • 405.942.5001 • [www.oklahomachildcare.org](http://www.oklahomachildcare.org)

Regional child care resource and referral (CCR&R) agencies hold training for child care providers on many different topics. Visit the OCCRRA website to link to your local agency for training opportunities in your area.

#### Oklahoma State Department of Human Services, Oklahoma Child Care Services (OKDHS OCCS)

800.347.2276 • 405.521.3561

[www.okdhs.org/divisionsoffices/visd/dcc/](http://www.okdhs.org/divisionsoffices/visd/dcc/)

OCCS supports a variety of training opportunities and services for directors, teachers and family child care providers in licensed child care facilities such as licensing requirements, Reaching for the Stars, conference vouchers, and on-site technical assistance through CATSS. The Scholars for Excellence in Child Care program, CECPD and OCCRRA are funded by OKDHS OCCS and work in partnership to provide early care and education services to child care professionals of Oklahoma.

### CDA TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential is a national credential recognized by the Reaching for the Stars requirements. This national credential is awarded by the Council for Professional Recognition (CDA Council 800.424.4310, 202.265.9090, or [www.cdacouncil.org](http://www.cdacouncil.org)). Training from CECPD, OCCRRA and other early care and education professional development workshops and conferences may count toward the CDA education component (as well as for licensing and other programs). Other training to count toward a CDA Credential may include but is not limited to the following:

**Early Education: Pathway to CDA** – Classroom or online training taken through career technology centers **S**

**College level courses** – Child development or early childhood education coursework taken at community colleges **S**

**Smart Horizons** – Online training for the CDA, CDA renewal, and CEUs ([www.smarthorizons.org](http://www.smarthorizons.org))

**CARE Courses** – Online and correspondence courses in child development and child care management

**Early Care Curriculum** – Coursework through career technology centers ([www.okcareertech.org](http://www.okcareertech.org))

**Essentials Curriculum** – CDA curriculum offered through the Council for Professional Recognition ([www.cdacouncil.org](http://www.cdacouncil.org))


**S** See Scholars for Excellence in Child Care scholarship information on opposite side.


## **OTHER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES** (Include but are not limited to the following)


- **The Creative Curriculum® for Infants, Toddlers, and Twos and The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool** is a comprehensive curriculum that helps teachers achieve the very best program for children under the age of three and to build high-quality preschool programs. ([www.creativecurriculum.net](http://www.creativecurriculum.net))
- **The Program for Infant/Toddler Care (PITC)** approach equates good care with trained infant/toddler care teachers who are preparing themselves and the environment so that infants can learn. ([www.pitc.org](http://www.pitc.org))
- **Ready to Learn** is an early literacy initiative that celebrates literacy, promotes family reading, and provides emergent literacy training and information to parents and child care providers. ([www.odl.state.ok.us/literacy/initiatives/readytolearn.htm](http://www.odl.state.ok.us/literacy/initiatives/readytolearn.htm))
- **Training Inclusive Childcare = Terrific Opportunities for Children (TIC-TOC)** is a training series for child care providers intended to increase the number of children with disabilities participating in community-based child care settings. ([www.ah.ouhsc.edu/tolbert/conferences\\_workshops.asp](http://www.ah.ouhsc.edu/tolbert/conferences_workshops.asp))
- **Child Care Plus+ Curriculum on Inclusion: Practical Strategies for Early Childhood Programs** provides training, tips and help for caregivers on working with children with disabilities. ([www.ccplus.org](http://www.ccplus.org))
- Visit [www.cecpc.org](http://www.cecpc.org) or [www.oklahomachildcare.org](http://www.oklahomachildcare.org) for information on upcoming early care and education professional development workshops, training, and conferences.


## **COLLEGE CREDITS, CERTIFICATES AND CREDENTIALS** (Include but are not limited to the following)


**Oklahoma Competency Certificate in Early Care and Education** – Recipients of this Master Teacher Certificate are typically high school students and may obtain this certificate through 1,050 hours of child care training at a technology center.


**CCP Credential** – The Certified Child Care Professional Credential is a credential supported by the National Child Care Association (NCCA). It is one of two credentials recognized by the Reaching for the Stars requirements. The Scholars program provides a CCP Direct Assessment Scholarship. (800.543.7161 or [www.nccanet.org](http://www.nccanet.org)) 

**Pathway Competency Certificate** – The Pathway Competency Certificate is awarded to individuals who have completed the Early Education: Pathway to CDA training taken through technology centers leading toward the national CDA Credential. 

**CoM** – The Certificate of Mastery in child development or early childhood education is an eighteen credit hour certificate awarded by the community college. 

**DCoC** – The Director's Certificate of Completion is a twenty-four credit hour certificate awarded by the Scholars Program and is available for directors and assistant directors only. 

**DCoM** – The Director's Certificate of Mastery in Early Care Education Administration is a thirty-three credit hour certificate available only through OSU-Oklahoma City for directors, assistant directors, and family child care providers. 

**Associate Degrees** – Associate in Arts (AA), Associate in Science (AS), or Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree in child development, early childhood education, or a related field of study require a minimum of 60 credit hours and may be obtained through the community colleges. 

**Bachelor Degrees** – Bachelor of Arts (BA) or Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in child development, early childhood education, or a related field of study require additional college credit and specialized study and may be obtained through the universities.

## **Scholars for Excellence in Child Care**

Scholarships are available to eligible child care professionals who meet requirements for the Scholars program. For more information about community college, technology center, and CDA Assessment scholarships call 866.343.3881 or 405.225.9395 or visit the Scholars program website at [www.okhighered.org/scholars](http://www.okhighered.org/scholars).

## **REWARD Oklahoma and The Oklahoma Registry**

Child Care practitioners with an Oklahoma Competency Certificate, a CDA/CCP credential or college credit in child development or early childhood education may qualify for REWARD Oklahoma, a salary supplement program for child care professionals. For more information, or to join The Oklahoma Registry and apply for REWARD Oklahoma, contact the Center for Early Childhood Professional Development (CECPD) at 888.446.7608 or 405.799.6383 or visit CECPD's website at [www.cecpc.org](http://www.cecpc.org).

Scholars for Excellence in Child Care (Scholars), the Center for Early Childhood Professional Development (CECPD), and the Oklahoma Child Care Resource & Referral Association (OCCRRA) are funded by Oklahoma Department of Human Services, Oklahoma Child Care Services (OKDHS OCCS). This publication was developed by the Communications and Outreach Committee of the Oklahoma Early Care and Education Professional Development Council (EPPDC), which includes members from each of the agencies listed. 12/2010