

#### Region 3

Sanford Children's CHILD Services 110 6th Ave SE, Suite 100 Aberdeen, SD 57401 605.226.5675 or 1.800.982.6404

Region 4 Child & Family Services **SDSU. Box 2218** Brookings, SD 57007 605.688.5730 or 1.800.354.8238

## Region 5

Sanford Children's CHILD Services 5015 S Western Ave, Suite 120 Sioux Falls, SD 57108 605.312.8390 or 1.800.235.5923









# For more information

For questions regarding the CDA training program, please contact Child Care Services at 1.800.227.3020 or visit our website at dss.sd.gov/childcare



# Council

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**PROFESSIONAL** RECOGNITION

For information on applying for the CDA Credential, please visit www.cdacouncil.org

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The South Dakota CDA training program supports individuals interested in earning the National CDA Credential by increasing the availability of early childhood professional training and mentorship across South Dakota. The CDA training program is offered as a service of the state Early Childhood Enrichment System.

# What is a CDA?

The Child Development Associate (CDA) credential is a nationally recognized early childhood professional credential administered by the Council for Professional Recognition. Providers who pursue the CDA credential learn to demonstrate their ability to nurture young children's physical, social, emotional and intellectual growth.



# Why earn a CDA?

- CDA is based on the knowledge of the nation's leading scholars in early care and learning
- 2. Gain professional knowledge and abilities to work effectively with young children in your setting:



- 3. Meets the qualifications for a child care director or program planner under South Dakota child care licensing rules
- 4. CDA Credential is nationally recognized in all 50 states
- 5. CDA Credential articulates to Associate or Bachelor degree credits in higher education programs in South Dakota

# Benefits of the CDA credential

- √ Advance your career
- Reinforce your commitment to early childhood education
- √ Provide parents with peace of mind
- Understand developmentally appropriate practice
- √ Increase your confidence



# How do I earn a CDA?

#### **Prepare**

- √ Complete 120 hours of education through the CDA training program
- √ Create a professional portfolio
- ✓ Distribute family questionnaires
- Document 480 hours of professional experience working with children

### **Apply**

- Identify a CDA Professional Development specialist
- Submit a CDA application to the Council for Professional Recognition
- Submit assessment fee

#### **Demonstrate**

- ✓ Complete a verification visit with your CDA Professional Development Specialist
- √ Complete the CDA exam

#### **Achieve**

Successfully complete the above steps and you will join over 800,000 other CDA graduates nationally