



Child Development Associate

Key Information: 2009-10 Workforce Florida, Inc. Technical Skill Attainment list. Certification is on the CAPE funding list for 2009-10. DOE certification code is CPREC001.

GENERAL EXAM INFORMATION

The Child Development Associate (CDA) certification validates a candidate's ability to meet the specific needs of children and work with parents and other adults to nurture children's physical, social, emotional, and intellectual growth in a child development framework. Additional information regarding the certification program is available at http://www.cdacouncil.org/cda_what.htm .

To be eligible for the CDA you must be 18 years old or older, have a high school diploma or GED, have 480 hours of experience working with children within the past five years and have 120 clock hours of formal child care education within the past five years. Additional information on these requirements may be accessed by clicking here http://www.cdacouncil.org/cda_obt.htm.

TEST PREP

A candidate must purchase an application packet in one of four areas; Preschool, Infant/Toddler, Family Child Care or Home Visitor. The price of the application is the same for all four areas, \$18. All applications can be purchased here: <http://www.cdacouncil.org/shop/index1.html/> .

Upon receipt of the application, the candidate completes the assessment requirements including the preparation, application and verification visit. There is an assessment fee of \$325 that must be submitted with the application.

TAKING THE EXAM

When the Candidate's Application Form, the \$325 assessment fee and documentation of training are received, the Council schedules a Verification Visit by a Council Representative. During the Verification Visit the Council Representative will collect documents, give the two-hour, multiple choice exam and conduct an interview to evaluate specific skills and knowledge.

Application deadlines are as follows:

Application Deadline	For Assessments
December 1st	1st Quarter: January, February, March
March 1st	2nd Quarter: April, May, June
June 1st	3rd Quarter: July, August, September
September 1st	4th Quarter: October, November, December

Click here to see details of test components: http://www.cdacouncil.org/cda_assess.htm