

## Ohio Department of Higher Education Announces New College Credit Guarantee for the Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential

### Industry Recognized Credential Transfer Assurance Guides (ITAGs)

ITAGs are a statewide transfer initiative that guarantees the award of college-level credit to students earning agreed-upon industry-recognized credentials, regardless of how they learned the skills required to pass the credentialing exam.

The ITAG policy, approved by Chancellor Randy Gardner in 2021, will create new opportunities for Ohioans seeking to further their education. Many of the ITAG agreements that have been created address the needs of Ohio's workforce and help build new onramps into higher education for Ohioans who have historically faced barriers. Creating new ITAGs brings both educators and industry to the table. Building upon the state's existing set of comprehensive transfer agreements, Ohio is well positioned to incorporate industry-recognized credentials into its nationally recognized structure.

### Eligibility and Opportunities with the CDA ITAG

- Individuals who hold current CDA certificates issued by the Council for Professional Recognition are eligible for credit.
- Credit may be accessed at Ohio's public institutions of higher education.
- Applicable to associate degree programs that prepare teachers to work in preschool settings with children ages 3-5
- Students are guaranteed to receive credit for a minimum of two courses for their CDA.

### Next Steps

Interested students should reach out to the school they plan to attend to discuss next steps. Students should be prepared to provide documentation of their current CDA certificate to receive credit. Information on how to access credit, and information on institutions with approved courses can be found using the links below.

[How to Access Credit | Transfer Credit Ohio](#)  
[Credit Transfer Tool | Transfer Credit Ohio](#)



The Ohio Child Care Resource and Referral Association supports the Early Childhood Workforce by providing programs and scholarships that promote education, compensation, and retention of early childhood professionals. Additional information about these offerings can be located at this link: <https://occrra.org/workforce-development/>