# Nassau Community College



# CHILDCARE WORKER PROGRAM Child Development Associate (CDA®) - 120 hours

Are you interested in entering the early childhood care profession, a growing field of great opportunity? Do you want to take the first step towards earning your Child Development Associate (CDA®) credential? Then this course may be the right career path for you!

## What is a Childcare Worker?

Childcare Workers are direct care educators who provide services in childcare settings and school-based programs. These professionals have a role in supporting other professionals, including teacher assistants, teachers, and caregivers, in attending to children's needs while helping to foster early childhood development.

Childcare workers' roles differ depending on a child's needs and age. Typically, childcare workers are responsible for sustaining a fun and safe environment for children, monitoring children while in school, and enforcing good behavior. Childcare workers play an indispensable role in a child's development. In addition to caring for their basic needs and keeping them safe, childcare workers teach vital developmental skills and prepare children to be engaged, independent learners in the future. Working in this profession allows you to be innovative and nurturing as you make a difference in the important, early years of a child's life.

## **CDA®** Training:

The Childcare Worker Course at Nassau Community College is designed to support aspiring childcare workers, as well as those already in the field, towards fulfilling the first step in obtaining their CDA<sup>®</sup> credential. This course is designed to prepare adult learners with professional education. Offering 120 hours of professional early childhood education, including at least 10 hours in each of the eight CDA<sup>®</sup> Subject Areas.

## **Subject Areas:**

- Planning a safe and healthy learning environment
- Advancing children's physical and intellectual development
- Supporting children's social and emotional development
- Building productive relationships with families
- Managing an effective program operation
- Maintaining a commitment to professionalism
- Observing and recording children's behavior
- Understanding the principles of child development and learning

#### Minimum Requirements:

- High school diploma/GED
- 18 years of age
- Ability to pass a background check with clearance to work with children and families
- Passion for children and education

#### **Outcome:**

This course fulfills 120 hours required for the Child Development Associate Training, including ongoing support in completing the CDA® portfolio. Experience working with children is a requisite to apply for the CDA® exam. For the most current and up-to-date additional requirements, please visit the CDA Council website at https://www.cdacouncil.org/.

For more information on the Center for Workforce Development, click **NCC Workforce Development** or scan the QR code below.



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For further information, please visit ncc.edu/workforcedevelopment

**CENTER FOR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT** Phone: 516.572.7487 | Email: cwd@ncc.edu



# Take the first step toward broader career opportunities, higher wages and a rewarding career with children and self-sufficiency!

Learn about the Childcare Worker Program at Nassau Community College. For more information, email cwd@ncc.edu

Please scan the QR code below for the next Childcare Worker/ Child Development Associate 120-hour Training Program:



Inquire about possible funding opportunities and pathways towards Associate Degrees and/or a Teacher Assistant Certificate.

Call us at (516) 572-7487 Email us at cwd.ncc.edu

# Is the childcare worker program right for me?

Childcare workers usually work with a team of individuals, parents, children, teachers, assistant teachers, directors, early interventions specialists, and other childcare professionals. Positions can be full time or part time; irregular hours are common.

Childcare workers can work in

- Childcare centers
- Own home
- Private households
- Family childcare locations
- Head Start
- Early Head Start
- Independent arrangements

To find out Childcare Workers Estimate Wages, visit https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes399011.htm#nat

With increased education, childcare workers can advance to become Teaching Assistants, and with further educational qualifications, they can aspire to become Teachers.