

Types of Accreditation

Child Development Associate

The Child Development Associate credential is based on a core set of competency standards which guide early care professionals as they work toward becoming qualified teachers of young children. The Council for Professional Recognition works to ensure that the nationally-transferable Child Development Associate is a credible and valid credential, recognized by the profession as a vital part of professional development.

Providers who possess a Child Development Associate have knowledge of how to put the Child Care Associate Competency Standards into practice and understanding of why those standards help children move with success from one developmental stage to another. Providers who possess a Child Care Associate know how to nurture the emotional, physical, intellectual, and social development of children. For more information on Child Development Associate please visit <http://www.cdacouncil.org/about/cda-credential>

National Association for the Education of Young Children

For more than 80 years, the National Association for the Education of Young Children has worked to raise the quality of programs for all children from birth through age eight. A major part of the National Association for the Education of Young Children's efforts to improve early childhood education is through different systems of accreditation for programs that are committed to meeting national standards of quality.

Since 1985 the National Association for the Education of Young Children's national, voluntary accreditation system has set professional standards for early childhood education programs, and helped families identify high-quality programs for their young children. For more information on the National Association for the Education of Young Children accreditation process please, [click here](#)

National Association for Family Child Care

Accreditation is a process many different industries use to identify excellent practices in that particular field. Accreditation is both a status and a process. As a status, accreditation provides public notification that an institution or program meets standards of quality set forth by an accrediting agency. As a process, accreditation reflects the fact that in achieving recognition by the accrediting agency, the institution or program is committed to self-study and external review by one's peers in seeking not only to meet standards but to continuously seek ways in which to enhance the quality of the services provided.

The National Association for Family Child Care sponsors the only nationally recognized accreditation system designed specifically for family child care providers. This system was designed by hundreds of providers, parents, and early care and education experts in an effort to create a quality indicator for family child care programs across the country.

The National Association for Family Child Care accreditation is awarded to family child care providers who meet the eligibility requirements and the quality standards for the National Association for Family Child Care accreditation. Accreditation reflects a high

level of quality through a process that examines all aspects of the family child care program, i.e. relationships, the environment, developmental learning activities, safety and health, and professional and business practices. Once family child care providers become accredited, they agree to abide by the standards set forth and to be measured against those standards, with periodic integrity and compliance reviews. There are over 2100 National Association for Family Child Care accredited providers throughout the United States and in other locations worldwide where military family child care professionals operate. For more information on the National Association for Family Child Care accreditation process please, [click here](#)

National Early Childhood Program Accreditation

The National Early Childhood Program Accreditation is an important endeavor for a number of reasons. Primarily, the self-assessment process which involves parents, staff and program management encourages all to work together to reach for a higher level of quality. This teamwork ultimately benefits our children. Accreditation is a learning process and an improvement tool. Accreditation helps parents locate high quality child care programs.

The result of accreditation is improved quality, both in the developmental program for young children and in the health and safety of the environment. Because the National Early Childhood Program Accreditation process involves the center management, teachers, and families, all growing as they reach for this higher level of quality, all benefit from the results. For more information on the National Early Childhood Program Accreditation process please, [click here](#)