



TENNESSEE EARLY CHILDHOOD TRAINING ALLIANCE

*Promoting Professionalism and
High Quality Child Care in Tennessee*

Earn a CDA® the TECTA Way!

TECTA is here to work with you in obtaining tuition support as well as assist you with meeting the Council for Professional Recognition's requirements.



About TECTA

For over 25 years, TECTA has provided comprehensive training and educational opportunities to increase the knowledge and skills of those who work with young children.

Our TECTA Orientation is a 30-clock hour Department of Human Services (DHS)-approved training designed based upon core professional knowledge in the field and provides participants with an understanding of their role as professional caregivers.

What is a CDA®?

- A CDA® is a Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential™ that recognizes an individual's knowledge of child development and skills when working with young children.
- The Council for Professional Recognition in Washington, DC awards this Credential to individuals who have completed training and other requirements.
- TECTA staff are approved Professional Development Specialists, advising participants with their required portfolio and completing the verification visit.
- TECTA provides personalized assistance and mentoring throughout the process.

Visit www.tecta.info to get started.

How TECTA Can Assist You

TECTA Orientation provides a gateway to our system of early childhood academic advancement in higher education, starting with tuition support for the initial Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential™ preparation courses.

These courses follow our Career Lattice and articulate into the Technical Certificate and degrees in Early Childhood Education. TECTA also provides CDA® credential support by hosting workgroups and providing scholarships for the credential application fee for each eligible participant.

1

Begin with a free TECTA Orientation

TECTA offers five 30 clock hour Orientations for individuals that work with children: Administrator, Center-Based, School-Age, Infant/Toddler, and Family Child Care.

2

Start your Academic Courses

If you are working with young children in a state-regulated early childhood program and complete TECTA Orientation, you are eligible for tuition assistance for the academic courses needed to complete a CDA®, Technical Certificate, Associate's Degree, Bachelor's Degree, as well as graduate degrees.

3

Participate in TECTA Mentorship

TECTA staff are certified CDA® Professional Development (PD) specialists and host workgroups that facilitate the Professional Portfolio (PP) and Family Questionnaires (FQ).

4

Submit the Application Packet

TECTA staff will help you complete the application packet and submit it to the Council for Professional Recognition. TECTA support includes a scholarship for the application fee.

5

Complete the Verification Visit

Once notification is received from the Council for Professional Recognition, TECTA staff will conduct the required Verification Visit. You complete the CDA® Exam at a local PearsonVUE testing center. The scores and test results are sent to the Council online and, based upon the results, the credential is awarded by the Council for Professional Recognition.

