



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Office of Child Care

2025 State and Territory CCDF Administrators Meeting (STAM)

July 22–24, 2025

Hyatt Regency Reston
Reston, Virginia



Free Professional Development Resources: Spotlight on the iPD and iCDA

Presenters:

Michelle Brown, Brittany King, and Donna Ruhland—NCECDTL

Amy Page—NCECQA

Learning Objectives

- Identify the key features of Individualized Professional Development (iPD) Portfolio resources on [HeadStart.gov](https://www.headstart.gov).
- Describe the training and professional development resources available on iPD, including the iCDA.
 - Learn from states that have worked with the iPD and how the iPD aligns with CCDF.



National Center on

Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning

The Individualized Professional Development (iPD) Platform

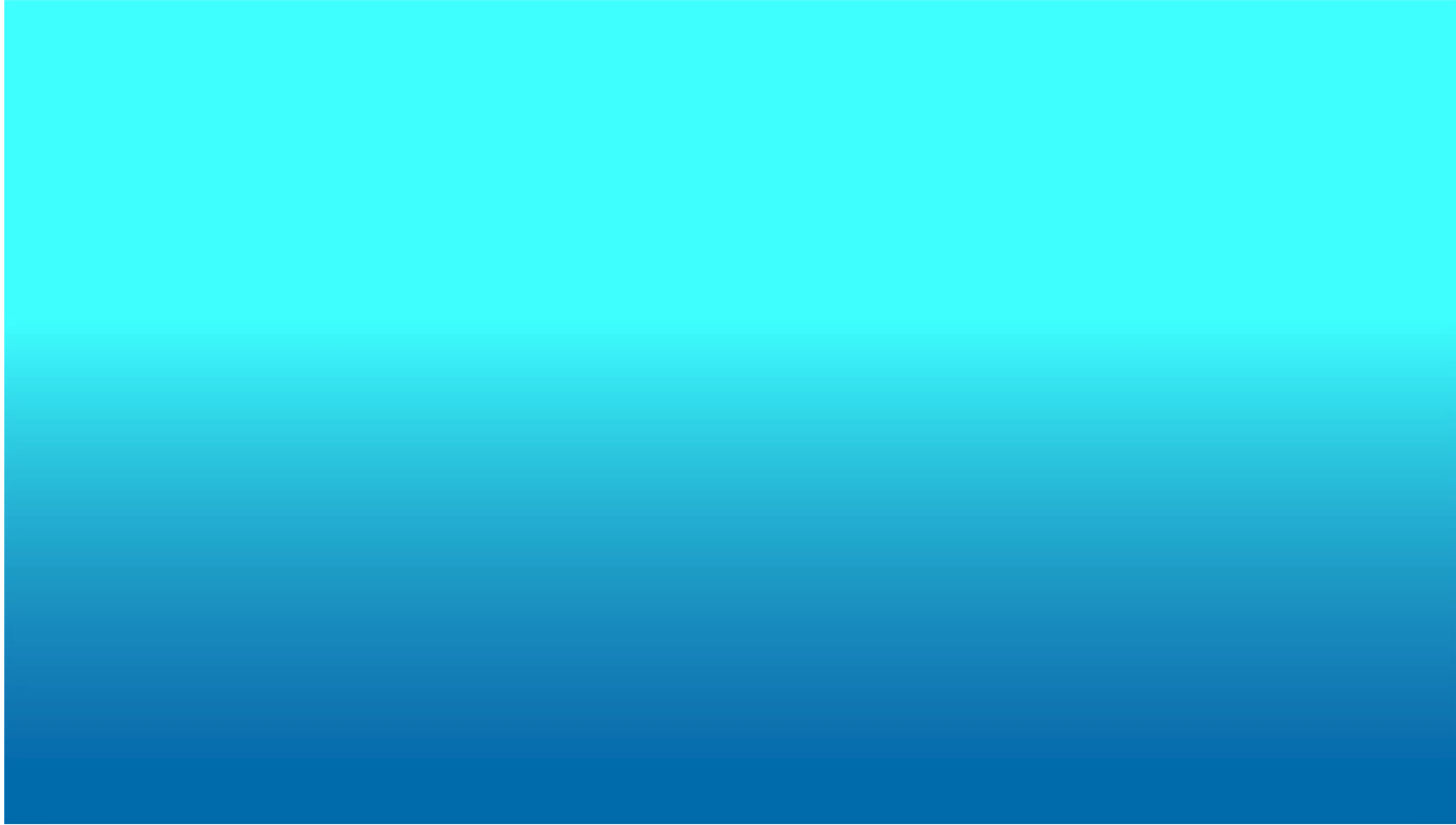
The screenshot displays the iLookOut for Child Abuse training platform interface. At the top, a banner reads "The iLookOut Mandated Reporter Training for Head Start Staff is Available Now!" with a "2025" badge. The left sidebar shows "USER INFO" for Luisa Soaterne with 1 Completion and 2 Badges. Below this, "MY PROGRESS" shows 5% completed (1 course), 63% incompleted (12 courses), and 32% inprogress (6 courses). "MY RECORDS" shows Learning Records. The main content area has "QUICK LINKS" for the SUPPORT CENTER, COURSES IN THE IPD PORTFOLIO, and HEADSTART.GOV. The bottom section is labeled "COURSE OVERVIEW".

Scan the QR code below to access the iPD landing page on HeadStart.gov.



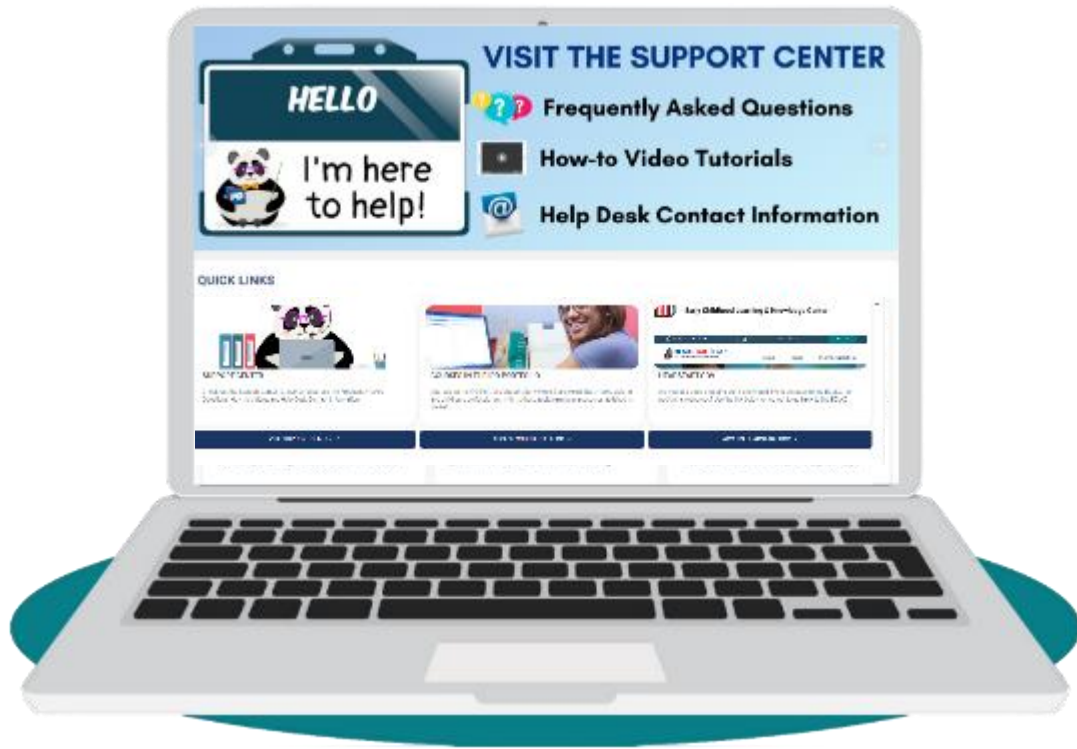
National Center on
Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning

What Is the iPD?



National Center on
Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning


Some FAQs



- What courses are available to early childhood professionals?
- Is iPD accepted in my state?
- How do professionals register for an iPD account?
- How do professionals get CEUs or certificates?



USER INFO



Luisa Sotomayor

1 Completions

2 Badges

CDA SUBJECT AREA I: Planning a Safe and Healthy Learning Environment

Available Now!

MY PROGRESS

5%

Completed Courses

1 Courses

63%

Incompleted Courses

12 Courses

32%


Inprogress Courses

6 Courses

MY RECORDS

Learning Records


QUICK LINKS



SUPPORT CENTER

Check out the Support Center for useful resources like Frequently Asked Questions, How-to Videos, and Help Desk Contact Information.


VISIT SUPPORT CENTER >



COURSES IN THE IPD PORTFOLIO

Courses on the IPD Portfolio support Early Head Start, Head Start, home visiting, and child care professionals with the best adult learning practices established in the field.

ACCESS COURSE CATALOG >



HEADSTART.GOV


Are you at a good stopping point and would like to get back to the ECLKC for additional resources? Use the link below or log out to go back to the ECLKC.

ACCESS HEADSTART.GOV >


COURSE OVERVIEW

All (except removed from view)


AMBIENTE DE APRENDIZAJE




APoyo AL DESARROLLO DE BEBÉS Y NIÑOS PEQUEÑOS



APoyo PARA NIÑOS Y FAMILIAS QUE ESTÁN EXPERIMENTANDO LA CARENCIA DE HOGAR



EVALUACIÓN CONTINUA



- USER INFO
- QUICK LINKS
- MY PROGRESS
- COURSE OVERVIEW
- MY RECORDS

National Center on
Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning

Benefits of the iPD

Ongoing professional development for staff in Head Start and child care settings

Uses adult learning principles and current research

Interactive learning experiences

Aligned with requirements, competencies, and CDA Subject Areas

FREE courses offer certificates of completion or FREE Continuing Education Credits (CEUs)

HAS PANDAS!



Feedback from a Diverse Group of Learners

I learned a whole new approach to use when visiting families in their homes. Previously I would spend a short amount of time as to be able to get to the next visit in time. I'm going to strongly suggest to supervisors that each family deserves an adequate amount of time to be heard and to become familiar with staff and our practices, along with time allowed to answer any questions and address any concerns.

- Celebrating DLLs: Spring Into Practice

I am going to check out the resources that were shared at the end of the course.

-Supporting Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities or Selected Delays

I thought the content and the way it was presented was great.

- Math is Everywhere: Supporting Math Skills in Infants and Toddlers

I enjoyed getting the training from truly experienced educators, several who stated that they had worked in a childcare setting. The back-and-forth format was easy to follow and understand.

- Teacher Time: The Responsive Environment-Infant and Toddler

I think I had a general understanding of a coach's role but the emphasis on the collaborative coaching partnership gave me a solid understanding of how to approach this role and then execute the role through the three components of Share Goals and Action Planning, Focused Observation and Reflection and Feedback. These clearly defined steps make practice-based coaching very doable.

- Practice-Based Coaching



National Center on

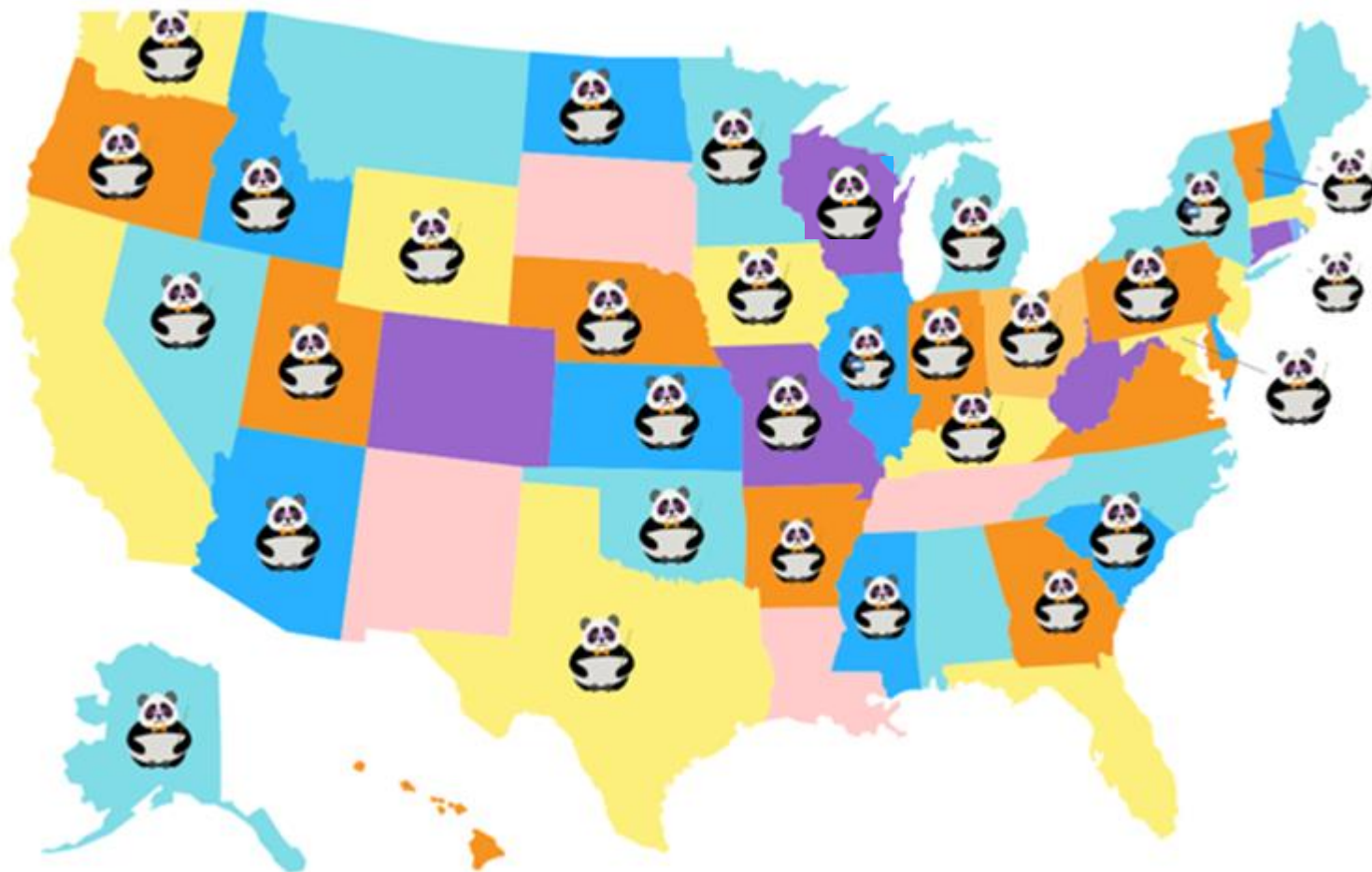
Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning

The iPD Makes Connections



National Center on
Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning

Meet Our State Partners



The following states have recognized the iPD as an approved training organization:

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1. Alaska | 16. Nebraska |
| 2. Arizona | 17. Nevada |
| 3. Arkansas | 18. New York |
| 4. Delaware | 19. North Dakota |
| 5. Georgia | 20. Ohio |
| 6. Idaho | 21. Oklahoma |
| 7. Illinois | 22. Oregon |
| 8. Indiana | 23. Pennsylvania |
| 9. Iowa | 24. South Carolina |
| 10. Kansas | 25. Texas |
| 11. Kentucky | 26. Utah |
| 12. Maryland | 27. Vermont |
| 13. Michigan | 28. Washington |
| 14. Mississippi | 29. Wisconsin |
| 15. Missouri | 30. Wyoming |



National Center on
Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning

Interested state system leaders
can email: ipd@ecetta.info

Course Approvals by State

#	State	Pending	Approved	Spanish
1	Alaska		All	All
2	Arizona		19	BTS
3	Arkansas		4	
4	Delaware		All	All
5	Georgia		Pending	
6	Idaho		All	All
7	Illinois		4	
8	Indiana		All	All
9	Iowa		All	All
10	Kansas		All	All
11	Kentucky		22	
12	Maryland		All	All
13	Michigan		54	(1)
14	Mississippi		All	
15	Missouri		8	



Course Approvals by State

#	State	Pending	Approved	Spanish
16	Nebraska		All	All
17	Nevada		11	
18	New York		11	
19	North Dakota	9	20	
20	Ohio		24	
21	Oklahoma		12	
22	Oregon		All	All
23	Pennsylvania		6	
24	South Carolina		10	(1)
25	Texas		All	
26	Utah		All	All
27	Vermont		All	All
28	Washington		15	1
29	Wisconsin		4	
30	Wyoming		15	



The iPD Works with All Approval Systems

Type of Approval	Focus of Approval	Delivery of Approved Content	State Example
Training & Trainer Approval	Content of training approved Trainer credentials verified	Approved trainers or developers must submit content for approval	Ohio
Training Approval	Content of training reviewed	Approved training may be delivered by trainers or facilitators	Oklahoma
Trainer Approval	Trainer credentials verified	Automatically approves training offered by approved trainers	Washington
Organization Approval	Organization reviewed for content knowledge and delivery	Automatically approves training offered by approved trainers	Alaska



National Center on

Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning

Training Verification Types

Verification	Process	Considerations	State Example
Trainer verifies attendance	Credit by trainer or organization	Organization verifies attendance according to agreed schedule	Arkansas
Interface	System connected to share data	Systems share completion data according to schedule	Ohio
Data Share	Completion data uploaded into registry	Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) process with timed uploads	Nevada
Practitioner Submission	Certificates sent by professionals	Registry staff verify and enter data	Kentucky



Let's Talk iCDA Courses

- The Child Development Associate (CDA®) Credential is extensively recognized certification for professionals in early childhood education. As part of the application requirements, candidates must “[c]omplete 120 hours of formal early childhood education training...”
- CDA prep courses to accumulate these training hours can cost upwards of \$1000.
- By providing free CDA coursework, educators can start or advance their careers in early childhood education.



iCDA Overview

- The CDA® Credential supports career growth along a professional's career pathway or career lattice.
- iCDA courses help candidates earn the required 120 training hours (80 hours in this series plus 40 additional hours from other iPD courses).
- Programs can help staff learn together in cohorts, with support from mentors or coaches.
- iCDA courses cover key requirements, but candidates still need to complete the CDA Exam and other requirements through the Council for Professional Recognition to get their credential.



National Center on

Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning

iCDA Course Development Format



8 COURSES



**8 SUBJECT
AREAS**



**10 HOURS
PER COURSE***

*The iCDA series provides 80 **required** training hours. These hours are part of the 120 hours required to apply for the CDA® Credential.



National Center on

Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning

iCDA Subject Area Courses

I. Planning a safe, healthy, learning environment (10 hours)

- Safe (safe environment, safety practices, prevent and reduce injuries)
- Healthy (good nutrition practices, promotion of wellness)
- Learning Environment (physical space, materials, daily schedule, routines, learning, special needs)

II. Advancing children's physical and intellectual development (10 hours)

- Physical (variety materials and experiences, teaching strategies to promote physical development, gross and fine motor development)
- Cognitive (DAP experiences, promotion of approaches to learning (ATL), math, science, technology, social studies)
- Communication (language, literacy, communicating thoughts and feelings, promotion of home language)
- Creative (music, movement, visual arts, develop and express creative abilities)



National Center on

Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning

iCDA Subject Area Courses

III. Supporting children's social and emotional development (10 hours)

- Self (responsive relationships, pride in self, individual and cultural identity)
- Social (functioning in a group, expressing feelings, social skills, peer relations, mutual respect)
- Guidance (supportive environment, self-regulation, effective intervention, addressing behaviors that challenge)

IV. Building productive relationships with families (10 hours)

- Families (cooperative and responsive relationships, communication, program involvement)
- Communities (community resources, collaboration, teaming; could help to support section in portfolio candidates have to have on community resources)



National Center on

Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning

iCDA Subject Area Courses

V. Managing an effective program (10 hours)

- Program Management (use of observation and evaluation data for planning, organizing, record keeping, communicating, being a team member)
- Programming (Curriculum & alignment to ELOF/state ELDS, scope and sequence, curriculum fidelity)

VI. Maintaining a commitment to professionalism (10 hours)

- Families (cooperative and responsive relationships, communication, program involvement)
- Communities (community resources, collaboration, teaming; could help to support section in portfolio candidates have to have on community resources)



iCDA Subject Area Courses

VII. Observing and recording children's behavior (10 hours)

- Observation (Observation strategies and techniques, use of observation data)
- Screening & Assessment (Best practices in screening and assessment, use of data, red flags, referrals for evaluation, sharing data)

VIII. Understanding principles of child development and learning (10 hours)

- Child development, 0-3 (developmental theories, development 0-3 in developmental domains, learning, DAP activities)
- Child development, 3-5 (developmental theories, development 3-5 across developmental domains, learning, DAP activities)




Additional 40 Hours Provided as Electives

Need 40 More Learning Hours For Your CDA®?

You've completed the core 80 hours - now what? The Individualized Professional Development (iPD) Portfolio offers the perfect solution to help you meet the 120 educational hours required for the CDA.


Why use the iPD?

- Zero Cost, Maximum Value.** Access all elective courses for FREE - a significant savings compared to external options.
- Your Learning Requirements All in One Place.** Using the same learning platform as the iCDA helps you keep all your requirements conveniently together.
- Choose Your Learning Pathway.** While you can freely choose the subjects of your elective courses, it can be helpful to choose ones that align with your professional goals. Here are some suggested courses focused on Infants and Toddlers. For the full list, visit the code below.

Learn more at [HeadStart.gov](https://www.headstart.gov) 

SUGGESTED COURSES FOR INFANTS AND TODDLERS

- Effective Practice Guide: Infants and Toddlers** (2 Hours / 0.2 CEUs)
Learn and explore infant and toddler teaching practices aligned with the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework (ELOF) through interactive modules and coaching strategies.
- Preventing Infectious Diseases in Early Childhood Programs Part 1** (1 Hour / 0.1 CEUs)
Learn about how infectious diseases spread and the essential policies to implement in Head Start and child care settings to reduce transmission.
- Preventing Infectious Diseases in Early Childhood Programs Part 2** (1 Hour / 0.1 CEUs)
Continued from Part 1, learn about infectious diseases, how it spreads, and the policies that help reduce transmission risks.
- Playful Learning Environments for Infants and Toddlers** (1 Hour / 0.1 CEUs)
Learn to create playfully environments, scaffold playful learning, and manage play effectively in your program.
- Building the Brain: Supporting Children's Early Brain Development** (1 Hour / 0.1 CEUs)
Explore the fundamentals of early brain development, the impact of early experiences and social and family interactions, and discover strategies to support this critical growth period.

 National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning

Pathways mapped out with iPD course electives for:

- Infant and Toddler
- Preschool
- Birth to Five
- Family Child Care



National Center on
Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning

iCDA Course Availability

COURSE/SUBJECT AREA	RELEASE DATE
CDA Course SA I: Planning a safe, healthy learning environment	June 2
CDA Course SA II: Advancing children’s physical and intellectual competence	June 16
CDA Course SA III: Supporting children’s social and emotional development	June 30
CDA Course SA IV: Building productive relationships with families	July 14
CDA Course SA V: Managing an effective program operation	July 28
CDA Course SA VI: Maintaining a commitment to professionalism	August 11
CDA Course SA VII: Observing and recording children’s behavior	August 25
CDA Course SA VIII: Understanding principles of child development and learning	September 8



iCDA Demonstration

USER INFO

Lucia Sostero

1 Completion

2 Badges

CDA SUBJECT AREA I: Planning a Safe and Healthy Learning Environment

Available Now!

MY PROGRESS

Completed Courses
1 Courses

Incompleted Courses
12 Courses

Inprogress Courses
8 Courses

MY RECORDS

Learning Records

QUICK LINKS

SUPPORT CENTER

COURSES IN THE IPD PORTFOLIO

HEADSTART.GOV

COURSE OVERVIEW

AMBIENTE DE APRENDIZAJE

DESENVOLLO DE BEBES Y NIÑOS PEQUEÑOS

APOYO PARA NIÑOS Y FAMILIAS QUE ESTÁN EXPERIMENTANDO LA CARENCIA DE HOGAR

EVALUACIÓN CONTINUA

Scan the QR code below to follow along.



National Center on
Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES

 **Office of Child Care**

2025 State and Territory CCDF Administrators Meeting (STAM)

July 22–24, 2025

**Hyatt Regency Reston
Reston, Virginia**



CCDF Alignment and Considerations





CCDF Considerations

CCDF Lead Agency considerations, for use of iPD and iCDA courses:

- To support pre-service/orientation training required for child care providers (45 CFR § 98.44(b)(1)(i))
- To support required training for licensing inspectors (45 CFR § 98.42(b)(1))



Examples of iPD Courses Related to CCDF Health and Safety Topic Areas

CCDF Health and Safety Topic Area	Related iPD course(s)
(i) Prevention and control of infectious diseases (including immunizations)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Preventing Infectious Diseases in Early Childhood Programs<ul style="list-style-type: none">Part 1: How Infectious Diseases Spread and Policies to Reduce TransmissionPart 2: Practices to Prevent Infectious Diseases
(iv) Prevention and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Injury Prevention in Early Childhood Programs
(v) Building and physical premises safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Injury Prevention in Early Childhood ProgramsActive Supervision in Early Childhood Programs
(vii) Emergency preparedness and response planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Natural Disasters and Head Start Facilities: Assess, Plan, Respond, Recover

Sample iCDA/CCDF Alignment

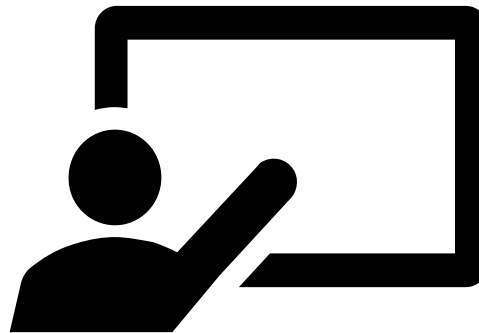
Table 1. iCDA Subject Area I—Planning a Safe and Healthy Learning Environment

Modules	Potential Alignment with CCDF Health and Safety Topic Areas
Module 1: Planning Safe Learning Environments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Emergency preparedness and response planning (some components)■ Prevention and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions■ Pediatric first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR)■ Building and physical premises safety■ Prevention of sudden infant death syndrome and use of safe sleeping practices
Module 2: Planning Healthy Learning Environments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect■ Prevention and response to emergencies due to food and allergic reactions■ Prevention and control of infectious diseases■ Administration of medication■ Nutrition (optional)
Module 3: Learning Environments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Access to physical activity (optional)■ Child development

Sample iCDA/CCDF Alignment

Table 2. iCDA Subject Area II—Advancing Children's Physical and Intellectual Development

Modules	Potential Alignment with CCDF Health and Safety Topic Areas
Module 1: Physical	Access to physical activity (optional) Child development
Module 2: Cognitive Module 3: Communication Module 4: Creative	Child development





Other subject areas that touch on CCDF requirements, especially related to child development:

- iCDA Subject Area III: Supporting Children's Social and Emotional Development
- iCDA Subject Area V: Managing an Effective Program
- iCDA Subject Area VI: Maintaining a Commitment to Professionalism
 - Also includes references to child abuse and neglect, building and physical premises safety, and caring for children with special needs



Technical Assistance Is Available

Please use this QR code or
corresponding web link to request
individualized technical assistance.





National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance

1902 Reston Metro Plaza
Reston, VA 20190
Phone: 877-296-2401
Email: NCECQA@icf.com

[Subscribe to OCC Updates](#)



Your Turn!



How can you intentionally use the:

- iPD to support early childhood professionals in your state, territory, or region?
- iCDA Course Preparation Series to support their learning journeys?



National Center on

Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning



Panel Discussion



National Center on
Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning



HeadStart.gov



National Center on
Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning



bit.ly/iPD_HeadStart



National Center on
Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning