



CDA Assessment Fee Scholarship Handbook



Ohio Child Care
Resource & Referral
Association

2469 Stelzer Road
Columbus, OH 43219
Toll Free: 1-877-547-6978

CDA Assessment Fee Scholarship: Contract, Voucher & Assessment

What are the benefits of my scholarship?

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® OHIO (T.E.A.C.H. OHIO) will pay for your assessment fee one time only regardless of outcome. T.E.A.C.H. OHIO and the scholarship recipient share the cost of the CDA Council's assessment fee -- \$375 and \$50, respectively. When the CDA Council bills T.E.A.C.H. OHIO, a check for \$425 is mailed to the CDA Council on the scholarship recipient's behalf. Send a copy of your CDA Credential to your Scholarship Counselor to receive a \$100 bonus check. Employing center gives 1% raise or \$100 bonus after credential received. Remain with current center or operate family child care home for six months after receiving the credential.

What are the time lines of my contract?

The contract spells out the partnership agreement and to what each party (T.E.A.C.H. OHIO, scholarship recipient, and sponsoring center) is committing. Please sign all copies, and return one copy to your Scholarship Counselor. The contract becomes effective when it is received by your Scholarship Counselor. The contract is in effect for 1 year; consult your contract for specific range of dates. CDA Credential must be earned during the year the contract is in effect to receive bonus from T.E.A.C.H. OHIO.

What steps do I take after receiving contracts from my Scholarship Counselor?

Follow the steps below. You will see some steps relate to T.E.A.C.H. OHIO and others to the CDA Council.

	T.E.A.C.H. OHIO	CDA Council	
Step 1	Carefully read contract before signing. Be sure you understand your responsibilities. You are making a 6-month commitment to your current employer when you sign the contract. Do not sign unless you understand the requirements & you intend to honor the contract in full.		
Step 2		Select PD Specialist (if you have not already)	
		First time seeking CDA credential ↓	Prior CDA Credential or seeking special accommodations during testing ↓
Step 3		Go to CDA Council website to complete application to payment section. Click on "Review Application" tab in upper right corner of screen to print completed portion of the application	Complete application in <i>The Child Development Associate National Credentialing Program and CDA Competency Standards</i> .
Step 4	Send signed contract & copy of CDA Council application to Scholarship Counselor within 3 months of receiving contract . If the application process is not completed within 3 months, the contract is voided and \$50 payment returned. Applicant can re-apply for scholarship when she is ready to be assessed.		
Step 5	Scholarship Counselor sends voucher to scholarship recipient		

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Does my contract, other required paperwork, and CDA Credential need to be *mailed* to my Scholarship Counselor?

No. All paperwork can be either faxed, or emailed to your Scholarship Counselor. Contact information including fax numbers and email addresses of Scholarship Counselors are provided below.

Scholarship Counselors:							
Shamell Hutchins Email: shutchins@occrra.org	Fax: 614-396-5960				Phone: 614-310-1372		
Belinda Kitsos Email: bkitsos@occrra.org	Fax: 614-396-5960				Phone: 614-310-1368		
Marla Tiano Email: mtiano@occrra.org	Fax: 614-396-5960				Phone: 614-310-1369		
Jessica Wuerstl Email: jwuerstl@occrra.org	Fax: 614-396-5960				Phone: 614-310-1374		

Should I complete the online application or paper application?

The CDA Council requires a paper application be submitted if you already have earned a CDA credential, or are requesting special accommodations during test taking; the cost is \$425. If you are pursuing the CDA Credential for the first time you can select either the online application or paper application. The online option is the preferred method of application; it costs \$425. It speeds up the process and allows you to better track your progress as you work through the CDA assessment process. As of December 29, 2017, the CDA Council increased the price of a paper application from \$425 to \$500 for first time applicants. The scholarship recipient is responsible for the extra \$75; T.E.A.C.H. OHIO does not pay the extra \$75.

What steps do I take after receiving the voucher from my Scholarship Counselor?

Follow the steps below. You will be following CDA Council procedures until you send a copy of your CDA Credential to your Scholarship Counselor.

	T.E.A.C.H. OHIO	CDA Council	
		First time seeking CDA credential ↓	Prior CDA Credential or seeking special accommodations during testing ↓
Step 1		Complete payment section & print cover page	Mail application with voucher to: CDA Council 2460 16 th Street NW Washington, D. C. 20009-3547
Step 2		Send voucher & cover page to CDA Council	
Step 3		Receive <i>Ready to Schedule</i> notice from CDA Council	
Step 4		Take test & be observed within 6 months of receiving <i>Ready to Schedule</i> notice	
Step 5		Receive credential from CDA Council	

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Step 6	Send copy of CDA Credential to Scholarship Counselor to receive bonus check	
Step 7	Respond to online T.E.A.C.H. OHIO survey	

When should I contact my Scholarship Counselor?

- When a personal or family situation prevents you from completing the CDA assessment process.
- When you are considering changing your job or are no longer employed by your employing program.
- When you have a change of home address. You will need to notify T.E.A.C.H. OHIO and the Registry.

What if I have questions about the CDA Council's procedures, including finding a PD Specialist or locating a testing site?

- Consult the book entitled *The Child Development Associate National Credentialing Program and CDA Competency Standards*
- Call the CDA Council at 1-800-424-4310
- Consult the CDA Council's website (www.cdacouncil.org) for help to find PD Specialist or testing site
- Contact your T.E.A.C.H. OHIO Scholarship Counselor. T.E.A.C.H. OHIO is not the same organization as the CDA Council; our Scholarship Counselors are fully aware of their procedures and can guide you through the CDA process.

This was a great experience; how can I support T.E.A.C.H. OHIO for future scholars?

We may contact you to ask if you would be willing to share your story with one of our state partners, funders, or legislators. We also hope you will take the opportunity to share with others how T.E.A.C.H. has helped support your pursuit of increased education, knowledge and skills to benefit children in your care.

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CDA Assessment Fee Scholarship Acknowledgement Form

I have read and understand the information contained in the T.E.A.C.H. *CDA Assessment Fee Scholarship Handbook*. I will contact my T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship Counselor with any questions. I realize that T.E.A.C.H. will not issue a voucher until I return this signed form, as well as other required paperwork.

I understand that the T.E.A.C.H. *CDA Assessment Fee Handbook* may change at any time. It is my responsibility to check the website periodically at occr.org/wd for updates.

Participant Name (print and sign)

Date

Sponsoring Director (print and sign)

Date

Return this form to your T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship Counselor along with 1 copy of your signed contract, and a copy of the application you are sending to the CDA Council.