



**Calling Early Childhood Educators!**

# Apply and Enroll Today for No-Cost Early Childhood Credentials, Degrees

## WHAT IS THIS OPPORTUNITY?

This is an opportunity for early childhood educators who teach and care for young children to advance their careers—**AT NO COST!**



Through a state-sponsored grant, the Early Childhood Education Professional Development Organization (ECEPDO@PASSHE) is helping Pennsylvania early childhood teachers, just like you, to advance their career pathways—free!

If you qualify, funding covers tuition/fees and other supports to help you complete a credit-bearing Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential, an Associate’s degree, or a Bachelor’s degree in Early Childhood Education! There’s no better time to get started!

Through various partnerships with numerous educational entities, the ECEPDO@PASSHE offers this valuable opportunity to advance your career through online, in-person, and hybrid instruction. Visit [ecepdo.org](http://ecepdo.org) to see all our partners.

**Join those who have seized this opportunity; you can, too!**

## THINGS TO GATHER BEFORE YOU APPLY FOR ECEPDO@PASSHE FUNDING

1. Your PD Registry number
2. Your PA Key-verified career pathway level
3. Your employer’s full name and address (the program’s name)
4. A recent paystub to upload
5. Your hourly wage

**If you gather these items before you apply, the application process will go easily and quickly — in about 10 minutes!**

## TO QUALIFY FOR PDO FUNDING, YOU MUST:

- Be a Pennsylvania resident.
- Be a current employee at a certified child care program for three (3) months or more, or demonstrate employment history of six (6) months in child care if newly hired. (Participants actively enrolled in PDO activities will not be impacted by a change of employer, as long as the new employer is a certified child care program.)
- Work a minimum of 25 hours per week directly in a certified child care program.
- Earn no more than the maximum hourly earning limit of \$25.00/hour **if you are a child care director.**
- Earn no more than the maximum hourly earning limit of \$21.63/hour **if you are a child care teacher, assistant teachers, or aide.**
- Be interested to pursue coursework at a participating college, university, or other educational partner toward a Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential or an Associate’s or Bachelor’s degree.
- GPA and course grades meet transfer requirements; a watch plan is developed for participants who do not meet transfer requirements.
- Sign a Pennsylvania Early Childhood Education Commitment Form.

## ADVANCING YOUR CAREER IS AS EASY AS 1-2-3

**STEP 1:** Apply at [ecepdo.org/get-started](http://ecepdo.org/get-started)

**STEP 2:** Once your funding eligibility is confirmed, a Professional Development (PD) Coordinator will contact you to discuss your career goals and educational options. Find your PD Coordinator at <https://ecepdo.org/contact-us/>

**STEP 3:** As your career “navigator,” your PD Coordinator will work with you to understand your career goals and to direct you to the education partner in your region that best suits your needs. They will also introduce you to other PDO supports that are available to you.

**THIS CAN BE YOUR TIME TO ADVANCE!**



This project is supported by the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) of Pennsylvania’s Department of Human Services (DHS) and Pennsylvania’s Department of Education (PDE). For more information, visit [dhs.pa.gov](http://dhs.pa.gov) and [education.pa.gov](http://education.pa.gov).