Preschool Endorsement

Early Childhood Endorsement Program (ECEP)

To meet the need for a highly qualified early childhood workforce, the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) has established the Early Childhood Endorsement Program (ECEP). This program is designed to provide a comprehensive foundation of knowledge for working with children of specific ages (infants and toddlers or preschool). The ECEP is a collaboration between the VDSS, the Virginia Community College System (VCCS), and the Community College Workforce Alliance (CCWA).

The VDSS Early Childhood Endorsement Program offers four endorsements:

1. Infant/Toddler Endorsement
2. Preschool Endorsement
3. Early Childhood Endorsement I – Creativity Series (ECEI)
4. Early Childhood Endorsement II – Health, Safety, Nutrition Series (ECEII)

VDSS Early Childhood Endorsements can be valuable as:

- Entry-level credentials for employment in the field of early childhood
- Demonstration of foundation of knowledge working with infants and toddlers/preschool children
- Supplements to a child-related degree or credential that does not include instruction on infants and toddlers/preschool children
- Supplements to a degree or credential outside the field of early childhood

Successful completion of courses can also fulfill requirements for teaching licensure renewal, annual licensing, and training for the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential.
Participants have two options by which to achieve a Preschool Endorsement:

**OPTION 1 - VDSS SPONSORED COURSES**

The Preschool Endorsement requires completion of the following 12 classroom - based or online courses. The courses can be taken in any sequence.

- Ages and Stages of Development for Preschool Children
- Child Abuse and Neglect: Recognition and Reporting
- Creating an Age-Appropriate Learning Environment for Preschool Children
- Early Childhood Theorists (Online or Independent Study)
- Exploring Brain Development
- Guiding the Behaviors of Preschool Children
- Health Screening for Child Care Professionals
- Nurturing Productive Partnerships with Parents
- Observation and Recording
- Planning Appropriate Activities for Preschool Children
- Preventing Injuries in the Child Care Environment
- Reframing Discipline

To achieve the Preschool Endorsement:

1. **Register** to take component courses (see list above)
   
   To register go to: [http://ccwatraining.org/childcare/](http://ccwatraining.org/childcare/) (click on VDSS Child Care Training) or contact the Community College Workforce Alliance at (804) 523-2298 or **VDSSclasses@ccwa.vccs.edu**.

2. **Complete** all required courses

3. **Complete** course assessments within 4 to 6 weeks of completing the online course
   - Part I is online, through CCWA, and is multiple choice/true-false. Participants **must** receive a **passing score of 70% or higher on all courses**.
   - Part II is an independent study demonstrating application of content in a classroom setting

4. **Submit** the following materials to CCAVA:
   - Letter grade for Part I (a print out of your score, that includes your name clearly stated)
   - Completed written assessment for Part II (for grading)
   - Preschool Endorsement Application Form
   - $10.00 processing fee for **each** course submitted for grading, **check or money order payable to CCAVA**, or through **PAYPAL**. Fees due with forms and assessment materials.

**Make a copy of ALL materials for your own records BEFORE submitting to CCAVA**

- Mail all materials to:
  
  CCAVA - Endorsement Program  
  804 Moorefield Park Drive, Suite 101  
  Richmond, VA  23236

For additional information, contact the Professional Development Team at 804.285.0846, or email [PDteam@va.childcareaware.org](mailto:PDteam@va.childcareaware.org).
OPTION 2 - COLLEGE CREDIT COURSE

Upon successful completion of CHD 120, Introduction to Early Childhood Education, individuals become eligible for the VDSS Preschool Endorsement.

To achieve the Preschool Endorsement:

1. **Complete** CHD 120, Introduction to Early Childhood Education. You must receive a passing grade to qualify for the endorsement.

2. **Complete** Preschool Endorsement Application Form

3. **Submit materials to CCAVA:**
   - Preschool Endorsement Application Form
   - A copy of your college transcript indicating completion of the course or a Letter of Completion from your instructor.
   - $10.00 processing fee, **check or money order payable to CCAVA**, or through **PAYPAL**

**Make a copy of ALL materials for your own records BEFORE submitting to CCAVA**

- **Mail all materials to:**
  - CCAVA - Endorsement Program
  - 804 Moorefield Park Drive, Suite 101
  - Richmond, VA 23236

For additional information, contact the Professional Development Team at 804.285.0846, or email PDteam@va.childcareaware.org.
Preschool Endorsement Program APPLICATION FORM

Please type or print clearly

Full Name __________________________________________
First  Middle  Last
Home Address ______________________________________
Day Phone ________________________________________  Evening Phone ______________________________________
Personal E-mail Address ______________________________
Employer ____________________________________________
Employer Address ____________________________________

Choose option 1 or 2, and then complete the information in the payment box.

☐ OPTION 1: VDSS Sponsored Courses (Indicate courses completed; check all that apply.)
There is a $10.00 processing fee for EACH completed course.

☐ Ages and Stages of Development for Preschool Children
☐ Child Abuse and Neglect: Recognition and Reporting
☐ Creating an Age-Appropriate Learning Environment for Preschool Children
☐ Early Childhood Theorists
☐ Exploring Brain Development
☐ Guiding the Behaviors of Preschool Children

☐ Health Screening for Child Care Professionals
☐ Nurturing Productive Partnerships with Parents
☐ Observation and Recording
☐ Planning Appropriate Activities for Preschool Children
☐ Preventing Injuries in the Child Care Environment
☐ Reframing Discipline

☐ OPTION 2: Completion of College Course - CHD 120, Introduction to Early Childhood Education

☐ CHD 120, Introduction to Early Childhood Education

Please indicate which materials are included (check all that apply) and mail with application to:

☐ $10.00 processing fee for EACH completed course (check or money order): payable to CCAVA
$10.00 x _____________ (# of courses) = ____________________ Enclosed

☐ I have received a scholarship from ____________________________

☐ PAYPAL OPTION: I have submitted payment through PAYPAL (include a copy of your receipt)
http://va.childcareaware.org/child-care-providers/professional-development/endorsement-program/

☐ Completed assignments and printout of letter grade for all courses checked above (OPTION 1)
☐ Virginia college transcript or letter from instructor indicating completion of CHD 145 (OPTION 2)

CCAVA - Endorsement Program
804 Moorefield Park Drive, Suite 101
Richmond, VA 23236

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