

# Educational Options

**Oklahoma Competency Certificate in Early Care and Education** – Recipients of this *Master Teacher Certificate* are typically high school students and may obtain this certificate through 1,050 hours of child care training at a technology center. (Training is not eligible for the Scholars for Excellence in Child Care scholarships.)

*The Scholars program\* provides scholarships to assist with the following:*

**CCP Credential** – The *Certified Child Care Professional Credential* is a national credential. The credential is 180 clock hours of Child Care training plus other requirements. The CCP must be renewed every two years. The Scholars program provides a CCP Direct Assessment Scholarship to eligible students.

**Pathway Competency Certificate** – The *Pathway Competency Certificate* is awarded to individuals who have completed the Early Education: Pathway to your National Credential courses taken through technology centers leading toward the national CDA or CCP credentials. (See Pathway brochure, call toll-free 866.343.3881 or 405.225.9396, or [www.okhighered.org/scholars](http://www.okhighered.org/scholars).)

**CDA Credential** – The *Child Development Associate Credential* is awarded by the Council for Professional Recognition (CDA Council 800.424.4310, 202.265.9090, or [www.cdacouncil.org](http://www.cdacouncil.org)). The Credential is 120 clock hours of child care training through Oklahoma technology centers or 9 credits in early childhood education coursework taken at a community college. This credential must be renewed every three years. The Scholars program provides scholarships for providers to complete coursework for the CDA Credential. The Scholars program also provides a CDA Direct Assessment Scholarship.

**CoM** – The *Certificate of Mastery* in child development or early childhood education is an eighteen-credit hour certificate awarded by the Oklahoma community colleges. Fifteen hours of child development and three hours of English Composition must be completed for the certificate. College credits earned apply toward an Associate in Arts or Science (AA or AS) degree in child development or early childhood education or an Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree in child care/early childhood education. The CoM certificate is only recognized in the State of Oklahoma. This certificate does not expire.

**DCoC** – The *Director's Certificate of Completion* is a twenty-four-credit hour certificate awarded by the Scholars Program. The CoM must be completed along with a designated computer and business course. The DCoC certificate is only recognized in the State of Oklahoma.

**DCoM** – The *Director's Certificate of Mastery* in Early Care Education Administration is a twenty-eight-credit hour certificate available only through OSU-Oklahoma City. The Child Care Center Emphasis option offers a program of study designed to develop an in-depth understanding of directing and managing a child care program including Family Child Care Homes in Oklahoma. The DCoM certificate is only recognized in the State of Oklahoma.

**Associate's Degree** –Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, and Associate in Applied Science degrees require a minimum of 60 credit hours. Please consult the scholar coordinator at a community college for a listing of specific degrees and requirements for each.

- The Associate in Arts (AA) or Associate in Science (AS) degree provides students with a general education background and allows them to take specialized courses within their major and minor fields. These are typically transfer degrees and have the same general education requirements as bachelor's degrees.
- The Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree gives students a minimum general education background and a specialization in a selected technical program. These are typically degrees designed to prepare students for specific jobs. These generally require fewer general education courses than AA or AS degrees.

For additional information about the **Scholars for Excellence in Child Care program\***, the **Early Education: Pathway to Your National Credential scholarship\*** or the **CDA/CCP Assessment scholarship\*** contact the scholar coordinator at your local community college or the Scholars program office at 866.343.3881 (toll free) or 405.225.9395. Visit our web site at: [www.okhighered.org/scholars](http://www.okhighered.org/scholars).

*\*To qualify for the Scholars for Excellence in Child Care program, child care providers must meet eligibility requirements.*

*The Scholars for Excellence in Child Care (Scholars) program is funded through the Department of Human Services, Child Care Services*