



380 Lafayette Road, Suite 103
St. Paul, MN 55107
Ph: 651-290-9704
Fax: 651-290-9785
www.mnchildcare.org

MINNESOTA PATS PROGRAM (PAths To Success) SCHOLARSHIP PROJECT

**Helping Child Care Providers
on the Path to a
Child Development
Associate Credential**

Well-Educated Caregivers
Create a Strong Child Care
System in Minnesota.

A Strong Minnesota Needs
a Strong Child Care System.



Quality Care & Education for Every Child

How can the Minnesota PATS Project help Child Development Associate candidates?

The Minnesota PATS Program offers financial assistance to child care professionals—including child care center staff, Head Start staff and family child care providers—who are working toward their Child Development Associate Credential (CDA).

Created to promote excellence in the child care field and to support providers in their continued education, Minnesota PATS considers an investment in our early educators to be an investment in our state's children.

Eligible candidates may have their CDA advisor fees covered through this project (up to \$300) by using a PATS certified advisor.

To apply

Contact the Minnesota Child Care Resource & Referral Network at 1-866-807-6021, ext. 108. Interested candidates will be provided with an application and list of PATS certified CDA advisors.

There is a priority to fund providers caring for infants and toddlers.



What is a CDA?

- A CDA (Child Development Associate) is a national credential issued by the Council for Professional Recognition.
- It is received after completing the CDA assessment.
- To earn a CDA, 120 hours of child care training is required in eight content areas with a minimum of 10 hours in each content area.

Eligibility requirements for a CDA

- High school graduate/GED
- 18 years or older
- 480 hours of experience working with children within the past five years

Benefits of earning a CDA

- Gain the knowledge and skills needed to meet the specific needs of children.
- The CDA is a respected, national credential.
- Eligibility to receive higher reimbursement rate from Child Care Assistance.
- Eligibility to apply for the REETAIN program and earn an additional annual grant of \$1000 (if awarded).
- Some colleges and universities offer credit for a CDA credential.

Go to www.cdacouncil.org for more information.

