

Earn College Credits Through Your CDA®

How to convert your CDA® training hours to college credits.



What is the process?

Some Iowa community colleges have what is known as a CDA® articulation agreement. The CDA® articulation agreement essentially states that if someone has an active CDA® Credential™ that they earned through training hours, that person may convert those training hours into credits at that college for a greatly reduced tuition rate.

What are the benefits?

Depending on which community college you choose, by taking just one class at a community college and paying a small portion of tuition, you could be automatically 30% done with your early childhood diploma, or 20% done with your associate degree. Not only does your college degree become much more within reach, but you could also move up on the WAGE\$ scale and earn more in your salary supplement.

How much do I pay for the credits?

Each college has a different process, so you may pay a different amount depending on which college you attend and how many credits that college allows you to transfer from your CDA®. In most cases, you will only pay 25-50% of the original tuition of those 10-18 credits. TEACH can be used to pay for up to 90% of that remaining tuition.

Participating Community Colleges ([More Information Here](#))

- Des Moines Area
Ankeny or online
- Eastern Iowa
Davenport or Muscatine
- Hawkeye
Waterloo or online
- Indian Hills
Ottumwa
- Iowa Lakes
Estherville
- Kirkwood
Cedar Rapids or online
- Northeast Iowa
Online
- Southeastern
Burlington or online
- Southwestern
Creston or online
- Western Iowa Tech
Sioux City or online

See back side for step-by-step guide!

Turn Your CDA® into College Credits

1

Earn Your CDA® Credential™

Earn Your CDA® through at least 120 training hours, using TEACH Early Childhood® Iowa to help pay your application fee.

2

Apply for WAGE\$

Apply for Child Care WAGE\$® Iowa to earn a semi-annual salary supplement as a reward for your education.

3

Apply to & Enroll in School

Choose an Iowa community college with a CDA® articulation agreement (see front) and enroll into the ECE program.

4

Fill out Paperwork

Reach out to your college's ECE contact to learn about their process and submit necessary paperwork.

5

Pay for Credits

Pay a small fraction of the tuition you would normally pay for college (with the help of TEACH) and earn up to 18 credits towards your degree!

6

Submit Transcript

Submit your new transcript to WAGE\$ to see if you're eligible to earn an increased supplement.

7

Earn Your Degree

Continue taking classes, earning college credits, and moving up the WAGE\$ scale until you have a Bachelor's degree. All at a fraction of the price, thanks to TEACH and WAGE\$!



Participating Colleges & Potential Compensation

Community College Name & Location	Online Option?	Maximum # Credits Articulated	# Remaining Credits to ECE Diploma	# Remaining Credits to AA
Des Moines Area - Ankeny	☑	16	21	48
Eastern Iowa - Davenport	No	17	16	49
Hawkeye - Waterloo	☑	13	14	48
Indian Hills - Ottumwa	No	12	N/A	52
Iowa Lakes - Estherville	No	12	23	56
Kirkwood - Cedar Rapids	☑	12	22	51
Northeast Iowa - Peosta/Calmar	☑	12	19	N/A
Southeastern - Burlington	☑	12	19	48
Southwestern - Creston	☑	12	N/A	52
Western Iowa Tech - Sioux City	☑	12	22	53

WAGE\$ Salary Supplements per Education Level

Actual compensation depends on your eligibility and your program's IQ4K rating.

Level 2
CDA® Credential (0 CR)

\$550-\$1,150

Level 3
12 College Credits

\$800-\$1,650

Level 5
ECE Diploma (32 CR)

\$1,750-\$3,650

Level 7
AA in ECE (64 CR)

\$2,900-\$6,000