

### Comparisons of Early Childhood and Teacher Certification Preparation Models<sup>1</sup>

CDA CHILD DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE	EARLY CHILDHOOD ONE YEAR CERTIFICATE	ASSOCIATE DEGREE <sup>2</sup>			BACHELOR DEGREE		MASTER'S DEGREE		DOCTORAL DEGREE	
		AAS	AS	AA	BACHELOR OF SCIENCE	BACHELOR OF ARTS	MA	MS	ED.D.	PH.D
Theory & Pedagogy – 120 hours of college level coursework in competencies = approx. 9 credits* Practice – 480 work hours Advisor Observation/Portfolio = approx. 3 credits *Discretion of higher education institution	Theory and Pedagogy and Practice  (up to 30 credits)	Theory & Pedagogy & Practice  (approx. 40) credits	Theory & Pedagogy & Practice  (approx. 30) credits	Electives may be Theory & Pedagogy. Practice usually does not transfer  $\frac{1}{4}$ = (approx. 15) credits	(approx. 60) credits in professional education	(approx. 90 credits)	A bachelor's degree is a prerequisite for acceptance into any graduate program. The total amount of credits necessary to complete a graduate degree program varies greatly from program to program.			
	General Education  (0-15 credits)  TOTAL up to 30	General Education (approx. 20 credits)  TOTAL 60-64	General Education (approx. 30) credits  TOTAL 60-64	General Education (approx. 45) credits  TOTAL 60-64	Arts and Sciences (General Education)  TOTAL 120+	(approx. 30) credits Other  TOTAL 120+				

<sup>1</sup> Terminology: Theory and Pedagogy: coursework in child development, diversity & exceptionality curriculum & implementation, family & community, and assessment. General Education: coursework in humanities, mathematics and technology, social sciences, biological and physical sciences, the arts, personal health and fitness; Practice: supervised field experiences, student teaching, practicum.

<sup>2</sup> This Comparison of early childhood preparation programs was based on the American Association of Community Colleges suggested model for AAS, AS, and AA degrees. This is a general model with approximate distributions.