



# South Dakota Pathways Scholarship Program Eligibility Requirements

## 1. SDCDA Training Scholarship

### Eligibility Requirements

- ✓ Must work in a state registered or licensed program that provides full-day care.
- ✓ Must be at least 16 years old
- ✓ Must be a participant on the Pathways Career Lattice
- ✓ Total Household income must be less than 85% of State Median Income Guidelines

## 2. Child Development Specialist Program (and SD Apprenticeship Project)

### Eligibility Requirements:

- ✓ Must have a current CDA Credential
- ✓ Must have taken Supplemental Training (offered via DDN)
- ✓ Must be a participant on the Pathways Career Lattice
- ✓ Must work in a registered or licensed program that provides full-day care.
- ✓ Total Household income must be less than 85% of State Median Income Guidelines

## 3. Leadership Certificate/Credential Program

### Eligibility Requirements:

- ✓ Must have a current CDA or have a degree in early education or in a related field of study among other requirements
- ✓ Must have completed the 20 hours of Management Training through a regional Early Childhood Enrichment office
- ✓ Must have completed Supplemental Training (required for those who have a current CDA without an early education degree or related degree)
- ✓ Must work in a registered or licensed program that provides full-day care.
- ✓ Must be a participant on the Pathways Career Lattice
- ✓ Total household income must be less than 85% of State Median Income Guidelines



# South Dakota Pathways Scholarship Application

## Training Scholarship Request

Please identify which of the following training programs you would like to complete:

- South Dakota Child Development Associate (SDCDA) Training Scholarship**
  - SD Infant Toddler Certificate*
  - CDA Credential*

The SDCDA Training Project provides early childhood professional training and mentorship for individuals who work with children and consists of adult education programs located throughout the state. The SDCDA Training Scholarship is based on household income. When all training hours are completed, the child care provider is eligible to apply for the Child Development Associate (CDA). The CDA is a nationally-recognized early childhood professional credential. CDA Students can specialize and complete the credential procedures in one of the following areas: Preschool Center-Based, Infant/Toddler Center-Based or Family Child Care.

- South Dakota Apprenticeship Project** (for child care center and group family homes only)

Child Care Services and the US Department of Labor are pleased to offer the South Dakota Apprenticeship project as a next educational step after a student has applied for their CDA Assessment. This training program requires that the child care program sign an agreement with the US Department of Labor to provide for incremental raises based upon the student's education. The program also requires the student to complete 4,000 hours of on the job training with the aid of on-site and off-site mentors. Child care providers must complete Supplemental Training (to articulate CDA training hours) and a total of 12 college credits to receive a total of 23 college credits and the designation of Child Care Development Specialist by the US Department of Labor. *This program provides scholarship dollars for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> college courses only. The student is responsible for all costs associated with the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> college courses.*
- Child Development Specialist Training Scholarship** (for all registered and licensed child care providers)

Child Development Specialist Training, another option to the SD Apprenticeship Project, is the next educational step after a child care provider has applied for their CDA Assessment. This training project offers affordable higher education training to income eligible providers who work with children in licensed child care center, or registered group family and family child care settings. Child care providers must complete Supplemental Training (to articulate CDA Training hours) and a total of 12 college credits to receive a total of 23 college credits and the designation of Child Development Specialist by the South Dakota Division of Child Care Services. *This program provides scholarship dollars for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> college courses only. The student is responsible for all costs associated with the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> college courses.*
- South Dakota Leadership Certificate/Credential Scholarship**
  - Leadership Certificate*
  - Leadership Credential*

The South Dakota Leadership Certificate and Credential programs offer the opportunity to directors and leaders within center, group family, family child care and out of school time programs to focus on management and leadership training. To enroll in the Leadership programs, the child care director or staff must have a current CDA or have a degree in early education or in a related field of study among other requirements. In addition to the Management Training, there are also two required college courses SDSU ECE 492 Leadership and SDSU ECE 455 (both are offered distance education via the Dakota Digital Network) to receive the Leadership Credential.

## Personal Contact Information

Please print or type your answers. Read each question and answer it fully. Attach an additional sheet if you need more space.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security #: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Employment: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## Family Size and Income

All scholarship applicants are required to meet income eligibility guidelines. Guidelines are based on *family income and family size*, not individual applicant income. Income sources include, but are not limited to:

**Earned Income:** Salary, wages, tips, workstudy payments

**Unearned Income:** Interest, pensions, retirement, TANF, child support, alimony, Social Security, Veterans Benefits, rental income, unemployment and workers compensation.

In order to verify your income, please fill in the following financial information for your entire household and include copies of your last two paystubs, **OR** a signed statement from your employer indicating the number of hours you work per week and your rate of pay **OR** a copy of last year's complete Federal Income Tax Return.

Family Size: \_\_\_\_\_ Married \_\_\_\_\_ Single \_\_\_\_\_

Monthly gross family income from employment: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Monthly net profit from self-employment

\* **Depreciation is considered countable income** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Monthly gross child support income \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Monthly gross alimony income \$ \_\_\_\_\_

All other monthly income sources \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Previous Employment History

*Please list your previous work experience, beginning with the most recent employment*

1. Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person/Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Complete Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of employment: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ Your job title: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for leaving: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person/Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Complete Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of employment: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ Your job title: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for leaving: \_\_\_\_\_

## Work Experience

1. How many years have you worked professionally with young children? \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your professional history working with young children, including your current responsibilities:

2. How many children are in your direct care at this time? \_\_\_\_\_

3. What age range of children do you care for? \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

4. What type of early childhood program are you currently working in?

- Family Child Care Home (up to 12 children)
- Group Family Child Care (12– 20 children)
- Child Care Center (more than 20 children)
- Head Start
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Is your program licensed or registered by the South Dakota Department of Social Services?

- Yes     No

6. Number of children your program serves:

- \_\_\_\_\_ infants between the ages of 4 weeks and 1 year
- \_\_\_\_\_ mobile infants & toddlers between the ages of 1 year and 3 years
- \_\_\_\_\_ preschool children between the ages of 3 years and 5 years
- \_\_\_\_\_ school-age children between the ages of 5 years and 12 years
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ Total # of children served by your program

## Education History

To participate in the Child Development Specialist Scholarship Program, you must have a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential. *You must attach a copy of your CDA credential and CDA training transcript if you are applying for the Leadership, SD Child Development Specialist or Apprenticeship Program.*

Location of CDA Training: \_\_\_\_\_

CDA Instructor: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please indicate training that you have previously completed (check all that apply) and attach a copy of all applicable transcripts that document training you have completed:**

<u>Education &amp; Year Completed</u>	<u>Organization or Institution Attended</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> GED or High School Diploma (Completed: _____)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Vocational Certificate (Completed: _____) Area of Study: _____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Child Development Associate(Completed: _____) Endorsement: _____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Apprenticeship Certificate (Completed: _____)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Associate Degree (Completed: _____) Emphasis: _____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Bachelors Degree (Completed: _____) Major: _____ Minor: _____	_____

Masters (Completed: \_\_\_\_\_)  
Major: \_\_\_\_\_  
Minor: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Professional Declaration & References**

1. Are you currently participating in the South Dakota Pathways to Professional Development program?
  - Yes, Pathways ID # \_\_\_\_\_
  - No
  
2. Do you have access to a computer? \_\_\_\_\_
  
3. Why are you interested in participating in the SD Pathways Scholarship Program?
  
  
  
  
  
4. How will the children in your care benefit from your participation in the SD Pathways Scholarship Program?
  
  
  
  
  
5. Do you expect to experience any of the following professional growth changes as a result of your participation in the SD Pathways Scholarship Program?
  - Salary increase from my current salary of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to \$ \_\_\_\_\_
  - Advancement to a new position (please describe):
  
  - Improved professional recognition (please describe):
  
  - Other (please describe):
  
6. Additional information you would like to share in relation to your request for acceptance into the Pathways Scholarship Program:

7. Please list at least two professional references.

*Please note if you work in a child care center or group family setting, you must also attach the Program Director Recommendation form\* in a sealed envelope. (\*only required for the SD Apprenticeship or Child Development Specialist programs).*

**Reference #1**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Professional Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**Reference #2**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Professional Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

I declare and affirm to the best of my knowledge, the information I have provided herein is true and correct. Training funds attained under false pretenses are subject to immediate recoupment.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Application