What Does the Law Require?

As of July 1, 1995, for every 20 children in a licensed child care facility, there must be one worker with a Florida Child Care Professional Credential (FCCPC) or a credential that is equivalent to or greater than the FCCPC.

What is Equivalent?

The Department of Children and Families has determined that the following educational qualifications are equivalent to or greater than the FCCPC:

- B.A., B., A., or advanced degree in early childhood education/child development, home economics/child development or elementary education with certification in early childhood education or primary education from an accredited college or university.

- Associate level (2 years) degree in early childhood/child development, or home economics/child development from an accredited college.

- Completion of a FCCPC equivalency program approved and listed by the Department of Children and Families.
Option 1. Approved Birth Through Five Florida Child Care Professional Credential (FCCPC) Training Program
Completion of four child care training courses. The courses may be taken for academic college credit or clock hour credit.

CHD 1220 Child Growth and Development
(3 college credits or 45 clock hours)

CHD 2432 Curriculum for Young Children
(3 college credits or 45 clock hours)

CHD 1430 Observing and Recording
Child Behavior
(3 college credits or 45 clock hours)

CHD 1941 Early Childhood Internship
(3 college credits or 45 clock hours)

Option 2. CC Associate of Arts Degree
Sixty semester hour degree with Child Development and Education major. Designed for persons seeking employment in the child care field after two years of college. Must complete the following childcare courses.

CHD 1220 Child Growth and Development
(3 college credits)

CHD 2432 Curriculum for Young Children
(3 college credits)

CHD 1430 Observing and Recording
Child Behavior
(3 college credits)

CHD 2322 Programs for Young Children
(3 college credits)

Option 3. CC Associate of Science Degree
Sixty semester hour degree with Child Development and Education major. Designed for persons seeking employment in the child care field after two years of college. Must complete the following childcare courses.

CHD 1220 Child Growth and Development
(3 college credits)

CHD 2432 Curriculum for Young Children
(3 college credits)

CHD 1430 Observing and Recording
Child Behavior
(3 college credits)

CHD 1941 Early Childhood Internship
(3 college credits)
(May be repeated 4 times for credit.)

Option 4. Florida Waiver Procedure for Eligible Child Caregivers
For a child caregiver with an Associate, Baccalaureate, or advanced degree who is not certified in Early Childhood or in Primary Education, or does not have a Child Development major.

If you think you could be eligible for the waiver process:

1. Apply for admission as a non-degree student in the Chipola Registrar’s Office.

2. Schedule an appointment with the Director of Continuing Education to register for CHD 2130 Orientation to FCCPC.
   (1 semester hour)

Option 5. National CDA Credential
The 120 clock hours of formal training required to be eligible for CDA verification may be completed through designated noncredit CHD courses at Chipola. The courses will cover 13 functional CDA areas and will assist in preparing the Professional Resource File. The National CDA credential is issued by:

Council for Professional Recognition
2460 16TH Street, NW
Washington, DC 20009-3575
Phone: 1-800-424-4310
www.cdacouncil.org