

**Supporting the Governor’s “60 by 30” Goal for Michigan’s Workforce**

By 2030, 60 percent of Michigan adults will have learning or training after high school.

# PREPARING FUTURE EDUCATORS AND YOUTH WORKERS

**High School Credentials**

**Immediate Employment\***

**Careers With Continued Education\***



**CDA**  
Child Development Associate

Great Start or Head Start Associate/Assistant Teacher, Early Care and Education Lead Teacher

B-K, PK-3 Teacher or Child Care Center Program Director



**MI-YDA**  
MI School-Age Youth Development Associate

Recreation Leader, Youth Development Worker, Teacher Assistant, School-Age Site Supervisor

K-12 Teacher, Community Learning Center or Nonprofit Director (e.g., Boys & Girls Club Director)

## BENEFITS OF CREDENTIALS FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS



- Jump-start higher education
- Provide career opportunities in high-need fields
- Graduate with job-ready skills
- Earn college credits without cost

### THE OPPORTUNITY

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is making changes to [expand secondary learning opportunities for all students](#). Under the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V), Career and Technical Education (CTE) curricula will be directly tied to credentials that allow employment upon graduation. Students in the Education & Training career cluster will be able to work toward the Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential or the Michigan Youth Development Associate (MI-YDA) Credential.

## ABOUT THE CREDENTIALS

Both the CDA and MI-YDA credentials are based on similar competencies and require practical field/clinical experiences (work-based learning), development of a portfolio, and a verification visit to observe candidates working with children. Beginning in the 2021–2022 school year, all CTE programs will be operating under the new Perkins V requirements.

### CDA

Child Development Associate

The CDA is a national credential granted by the **Council for Professional Recognition** and is often the stepping stone for further career development in early care and education. The CDA requires 120 clock hours of formal learning along with practical fieldwork. CDA credential holders are qualified for the following professional job opportunities: Great Start Readiness Program or Head Start associate/assistant teacher, Early Head Start lead teacher (with the Infant/Toddler CDA), early care and education lead teacher, or trainer.

### MI-YDA

MI School-Age Youth Development Associate

Michigan was the first state to adopt model standards for out-of-school time programs. The MI-YDA (formerly known as MiSAYD) is based on the core competencies adopted by the National AfterSchool Association. The MI-YDA credential is similar to the CDA (professional level, P1 in MiRegistry) in that it combines demonstrated competencies with successful field experience. The MI-YDA credential prepares students for many types of work with children age 5 and older, including out-of-school programming, recreation and sports coaching, and community-based youth programs such as Boys and Girls Clubs and 4-H.



Both the CDA and MI-YDA can be initial steps for young people interested in teaching careers.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT**  
**[MDE–Education and Training \(michigan.gov\)](http://mde-educationandtraining.michigan.gov)**



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