Introduction

_____________________________ is preparing to earn the nationally-renowned Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential™. In order to be awarded the CDA, she/he has taken on a significant professional challenge: She/he must have experience working with young children, must have a required amount of early childhood education, must prepare a Professional Portfolio, must be observed working by a skilled professional (a CDA Professional Development Specialist) and must pass the national CDA Exam.

The process of getting a CDA is also a professional development experience in which Candidates reflect on areas of strength and areas for future professional growth. In addition to self-reflection, Candidates are provided feedback to consider by the CDA Professional Development Specialist and by you, if you so choose. So, we invite you to complete the questionnaire, below, in order to provide feedback that may help the Candidate continue to grow as a professional.

Please know that:

a) Completing this questionnaire is optional. If you choose to complete it, your feedback will only be read by the Candidate in order to contribute important information that may assist her/him in setting professional goals for the coming year. The answers you provide on this questionnaire will have no impact on whether the Candidate will be awarded the CDA Credential.

b) You may provide your feedback anonymously, if you so choose.

If you choose to complete the questionnaire, you must return it to the Candidate by ________________.

Family Questionnaire

Each of the following topics relates to key areas of quality early childhood professional practice as outlined by the Council for Professional Recognition. For each area, please rate the Candidate on a scale of 1 – 3 in which 1 = Needs improvement/Area for professional growth, 2 = Capable/Competent and 3 = Very capable/Area of strength.

The Candidate:

1. Provides a safe, clean environment for my child and teaches her/him how to stay safe

2. Provides an environment that promotes health and good nutrition
3. Provides activities, materials and schedules that promote my child’s development and education

4. Uses activities, materials and equipment that allow my child to develop small muscle skills (like writing or pouring) and large muscle skills (like climbing or balancing)

5. Uses activities, materials and equipment that help my child learn how to think, reason and solve problems

6. Helps my child learn how to communicate and introduces her/him to the basics of reading and writing

7. Helps my child express herself/himself creatively through music, art and movement

8. Nurtures my child, helping her/him build a positive self-identity and respect for every child’s cultural backgrounds

9. Helps my child learn how to socialize and get along with others

10. Uses effective strategies to help my child understand how to behave appropriately

11. Establishes positive, responsive and cooperative relationships with myself and the members of our family

12. Is well-organized and effectively manages the classroom or group

13. Presents herself/himself in a professional manner

14. (for Bilingual Specialization Candidates only) Respectfully communicates with my family in our preferred language

__________________________________
Name (optional)

Thank you for taking the time to support the Candidate’s professional growth. If you would like to provide additional feedback, please feel free to attach it to this questionnaire.