The Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Early Childhood will provide funding to support child care providers with obtaining their Child Development Associate® (CDA) Credential™ from the Council for Professional Recognition.

Who is eligible?
- Registered family child care providers
- Licensed child care center staff

What are the CDA® requirements?
- Have a valid high school diploma, GED, or enrolled as a junior or senior in a high school CTE program
- Complete 120 hours of professional early childhood education (setting specific)
- Obtain 480 hours of work experience (setting specific)
- Prepare a CDA professional portfolio with all required documentation

For more information about the CDA process, please visit: https://www.cdacouncil.org or contact the Council at cdafeedback@cdacouncil.org.

What does the fund cover?
- $425 initial online assessment fee
- $125 renewal online application fee (This includes renewal amnesty* applicants)
- $33 for *The Child Development Associate® National Credentialing Program and CDA® Competency Standards* book for the following settings: Preschool, Infant-Toddler or Family Child Care. (Shipping is included in the cost of the required standards book)

How do I apply for funding?
For more information on how to apply for funding, please visit:
https://earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org/CDA

Note:
*The CDA Renewal Amnesty deadline has been extended through June 1, 2021. Anyone with a CDA credential dating as far back as January 1, 2010 can complete the Renewal Amnesty process and make their credential active again!