

# 10 Steps to Earn Your CDA

Choose a Georgia approved CDA trainer at [gapds.dec.al.ga.gov/search/training](http://gapds.dec.al.ga.gov/search/training)

1

2 Apply for DECAL Scholars CDA Training Scholarship at [bit.ly/DECALSCHOLARSCDA](http://bit.ly/DECALSCHOLARSCDA)

Complete CDA training program

3

4 Apply for 1<sup>st</sup> POWER-ED wage supplement (completed CDA training & 80 hours of work experience)

Compile CDA portfolio, study for the exam, and create an account on [yourcouncil.org](http://yourcouncil.org)

5

6 Apply for 2<sup>nd</sup> POWER-ED wage supplement (completed additional 200 hours of work experience)

Apply for DECAL Scholars CDA Application Fee Scholarship at [bit.ly/DECALSCHOLARSCDA](http://bit.ly/DECALSCHOLARSCDA)

7

8 Choose a PD specialist and apply for the CDA exam at [yourcouncil.org](http://yourcouncil.org)

Complete final components with the CDA Council and receive CDA credential

9

10 Apply for 3<sup>rd</sup> POWER-ED wage supplement (earned CDA credential & completed final 200 hours of work experience)

## Important Contacts

### **DECAL Scholars**

Email: [support@decalscholars.com](mailto:support@decalscholars.com)

Phone: 770-642-6722 ext. 602

Website: [decalscholars.com](http://decalscholars.com)

### **CDA Council for Professional Recognition**

Email: [cdafeedback@cdacouncil.org](mailto:cdafeedback@cdacouncil.org)

Phone: (800) 424-4310

Website: [cdacouncil.org](http://cdacouncil.org)

### **Georgia Professional Development System for Early Childhood Educators (GaPDS)**

Email: [gapds@decal.ga.gov](mailto:gapds@decal.ga.gov)

Phone: (888) 924-2737

Website: [gapds.decal.ga.gov/search/training](http://gapds.decal.ga.gov/search/training)

## FAQs

### **What are the eligibility requirements?**

You may be eligible if you've been employed for at least 6 months, working at least 30 hours per week at a Department of Defense or DECAL-licensed child care center, family child care learning home, exempt Head Start Center, or a Georgia Lottery-funded Pre-K (or 15 hours per week at a DECAL-licensed before/after school program). Learn more at [bit.ly/DECALSCHOLARSCDA](http://bit.ly/DECALSCHOLARSCDA).

### **What are the award amounts?**

Up to \$500 paid directly to a Georgia approved CDA trainer; up to \$35 towards the CDA Competency Standards Book, the \$425 CDA Application Fee, and one \$150 CDA Renewal Fee paid directly to the CDA Council.

### **Can I receive reimbursement for CDA training?**

Yes, if you apply with all supporting documents within 6 months of the training payment date. Include your payment receipt for reimbursement. Your DECAL Scholars CDA Training Scholarship application must be submitted before your CDA Application Fee Scholarship application.

### **What is POWER-ED?**

POWER-ED is a wage supplement rewarding DECAL Scholars CDA training Scholarships recipients with up to 3 supplements of \$1,000, based on their progress in earning their credential. Download the application at [bit.ly/POWEREDCDA](http://bit.ly/POWEREDCDA).



## Questions?

Visit our website  
or call us at  
770-642-6722  
(ext. 602)



[bit.ly/DECALSCHOLARSCDA](http://bit.ly/DECALSCHOLARSCDA)