



Naaltsoos Bee Anooséél

THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE (CDA)
EQUIVALENT PROGRAM

PREPARED BY:

Early Childhood Multicultural Education Program

WELCOME

Join the Child Development Associate Certificate Pathway Program and take your first steps towards an associate's degree in Early Childhood Multicultural Education. Through the Tribal Colleges and University Head Start Partnership grant, we provide merit-based support including tuition, textbooks, stipends, professional development, and more.

Navajo Technical University (NTU) has developed a comprehensive CDA Equivalent program aligned with competency standards set by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). Our program aims to increase the number of qualified educators in Navajo, Zuni and surrounding federally funded Head Start programs serving indigenous children. This program will provide a solid foundation for individuals seeking professional advancement in Early Childhood Education.

The coursework of the CDA Equivalent program will cover:

- The importance of integrating a culturally grounded curriculum in early childhood learning programs.
- Working with families, schools, and communities, understanding the significance of observation and documentation, and employing various forms of assessment
- Participants will learn how to uphold themselves as early childhood professionals.

In our accelerated program, Early Childhood Multicultural Education courses have been designed to accommodate diverse schedules. CDA Equivalent participants can choose from three specialized boot camp options: perfect for full-time Head Start employees, working Head Start caregivers, and stay-at-home caregivers with enrolled Head Start children.



**Tribal Colleges and Universities
Head Start Partnership**

Increasing Staff Access to Higher Education

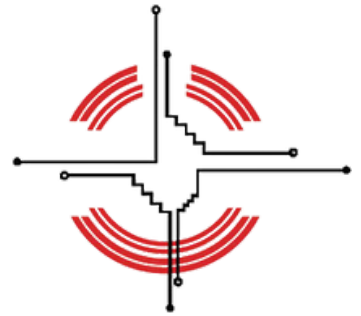


MEET THE TEAM



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CDA EQUIVALENT PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (15 CREDITS)

Course Details	Credits	Course Description
NAVAJO 1996: Dine Studies Special Topics	3	This introductory course delves into involving families and communities of diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds in early childhood programs, emphasizing the establishment of collaborative relationships and supporting families' goals through culturally responsive strategies.
ECED 1001: Intro to Early Childhood	3	This introductory course delves into involving families and communities of diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds in early childhood programs, emphasizing the establishment of collaborative relationships and supporting families' goals through culturally responsive strategies.
ECED 1110: Child Growth, Development, & Learning	3	This introductory course delves into involving families and communities of diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds in early childhood programs, emphasizing the establishment of collaborative relationships and supporting families' goals through culturally responsive strategies.
ECED 1115: Health, Safety, and Nutrition	3	This introductory course delves into involving families and communities of diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds in early childhood programs, emphasizing the establishment of collaborative relationships and supporting families' goals through culturally responsive strategies.
ECED 1130: Family and Community Collaboration	3	This introductory course delves into involving families and communities of diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds in early childhood programs, emphasizing the establishment of collaborative relationships and supporting families' goals through culturally responsive strategies.

Upon successful completion of the required 15 credits, participants will be awarded a Naaltsoos Bee Anoosééł (Paper with Growth) Certificate of Course Completion. This certificate signifies the participants' initial step towards potential career advancement in early childhood education. With this certificate, participants qualify to apply to the relevant educational offices in New Mexico or Arizona to obtain their official state-issued CDA certificate. Throughout the process, student-teachers will create networks of support to receive continued guidance and encouragement as they navigate the CDA Certificate application process.

BOOT CAMP AND COHORT TRACK OPTIONS

GDA Pathway Courses Spring 2025

All CDA Pathway Courses will be held online and on select Fridays, determined by the Navajo Head Start Program.

Course	Saturday Class Dates	Time Period	Credits
ECED 1115-ONL	01/25/2025	8:00am-1:00pm	3
	02/01/2025	8:00am-1:00pm	
	02/08/2025	8:00am-1:00pm	
	02/15/2025	8:00am-1:00pm	
	03/01/2025	8:00am-1:00pm	
	03/08/2025	8:00am-1:00pm	
	03/15/2025	8:00am-1:00pm	
	03/29/2025	8:00am-1:00pm	
COURSE	Saturday Class Dates	Time Period	Credits
NAVA 1996-ONL	01/25/2025	2:00pm to 6:00pm	3
	02/01/2025	2:00pm to 6:00pm	
	02/08/2025	2:00pm to 6:00pm	
	02/15/2025	2:00pm to 6:00pm	
	03/01/2025	2:00pm to 6:00pm	
	03/08/2025	2:00pm to 6:00pm	
	03/15/2025	2:00pm to 6:00pm	
	03/29/2025	2:00pm to 6:00pm	
Course	Friday Class Dates	Time Period	Credits
ECED 1001-ONL	01/24/2025	8:00am-1:00pm	3
ECED 1110-ONL	01/31/2025	8:00am-1:00pm	3
ECED 1130-ONL	02/07/2025	8:00am-1:00pm	3
	02/14/2025	8:00am-1:00pm	
	02/28/2025	8:00am-1:00pm	
	03/07/2025	8:00am-1:00pm	
	03/14/2025	8:00am-1:00pm	
	03/28/2025	8:00am-1:00pm	

ADMISSIONS & REGISTRATION

General Admissions Requirements for Enrollment Check-List:

- Completed Admissions Application
- Official High School Transcript or Official GED Test Scores (In a sealed envelope)
- Official College Transcript for Transferring Student—in a sealed envelope to the Registrar's Office, P.O. Box 849, Crownpoint, NM 87313 or electronic transcript to Wanda Jimmie, NTU Interim-Registrar at wjimmie@navajotech.edu
- Tribal Enrollment Document (CIB copy)
- Social Security Card (copy)
- Placement test (if applicable)

*****All required documents will be kept on file and you will receive an Official Letter of Acceptance upon completing your admittance.*****

Guidelines to Registration

Step 1: Admissions

An Admissions Assistant will be on-site to guide students through the NTU application process. (See General Admissions Requirements)

Step 2: Financial Aid

A Financial Aid Assistant will be on-site to assist students with the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) process, and additional student funding.

Step 3: TCU Partnership Grant Funding

Students enrolled in a bootcamp cohort qualify for summer TCU partnership funding and agree to maintain good academic standing throughout the CDA-pathway bootcamp program. Contact TCU Program Coordinator Thomas Yazzie for more information.

Step 4: Academic Advising

An Advisor will be there to go over ECME program requirements, and time sequence.

Step 5: Registration

Obtain official Spring 2025 Course Schedule from On-Site Admissions Assistant, to complete registration process.

TRIBAL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITY HEAD START PARTNERSHIP

The TCU partnership provides merit-based financial assistance, ensuring that the TCU grant will assist in covering the expenses of your enrollment in the CDA-pathway bootcamp as long as the student maintains good academic standing and adheres to the student responsibilities. The Head Start programs affiliated with Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) are instrumental in establishing career pathways in early childhood education for Native Americans while also addressing the staffing needs of tribal Head Start programs. This partnership between TCUs and Head Start reaffirms the invaluable role TCUs play in Indigenous education and early childhood development. Each collaboration is deeply rooted in the culture and language of the respective tribe it serves, while also strategically tackling staffing challenges within the early childhood sector by nurturing a new generation of skilled educators. The TCU partnership aims to support aspiring student-teachers in pursuing higher education, enabling them to attain degrees such as Associates or Bachelors in Early Childhood Multicultural Education. This initiative is geared towards ensuring a pipeline of highly qualified individuals ready to contribute to the workforce of Head Start programs.

Student Responsibilities:

- All applicants **MUST** complete the TCU Grant Application form, College Readiness Assessment and Navajo Nation Application
- Applications and relevant documents must be submitted using your NTU student credentials/email and your completed forms must be sent to your TCU Program Coordinator for filing, Thomas Yazzie (thomas.yazzie@navajotech.edu)
- Maintaining Satisfactory Academic Progress
- Participation in Professional Development Workshops
- Maintain Academic Integrity

By fulfilling these duties, students contribute to the success of the TCU partnership program and enhance their own educational and professional development within the field of early childhood education.

Together, let's ensure our centers have dedicated and qualified staff, enriching the lives of our children and families. Join us in making a difference today!

Students participation in the Boot-camp cohort depends on maintaining good academic standing, committing to remain in good academic standing, and completing the CDA-pathway boot camp until its conclusion.