

Early Childhood Professional Development Bonus System through the Child Development Division	
Level Achievements¹	AMOUNT
Northern Lights Level I Certificate (this includes completion of Fundamentals training & one year of experience), or On-the-Job Training Certificate issued by the VT DOL	\$100
Northern Lights Level II Certificate , which may include Child Development Associate (CDA) credential if received within the past two years	\$500
Northern Lights Level III A , which includes Registered Child Care Apprenticeship Certificate, or CCV Child Care Certificate AND two years of experience in regulated care.	\$750
Northern Lights Level III B , which includes an Associate's Degree in a related field ² AND two years of experience in regulated care.	\$1000
Northern Lights Level IV, V, VI (This can include a Bachelors' Masters', Doctorate, or PhD in a related field AND two years of experience)	\$1200 (paid in two payments, six months apart)
Professional Credentials	AMOUNT
First renewal of CDA within the past two years (there is no bonus for subsequent renewals)	\$150
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vermont Agency of Education teacher licensure with early childhood educator or early childhood special educator endorsement • Vermont Agency of Education teacher licensure with elementary educator endorsement when the applicant has focused on child development or early education in their coursework (must include college transcripts with application) • Northern Lights Program Director Credential – Step 3 • Early Childhood Family Mental Health Credential 	\$500

Note: Applicants must apply to the Northern Lights Career Development Center (NLCDC) for the certificate or credential and receive it prior to applying for a bonus. Level applications can be found on the NLCDC website.

¹ Completion of each Level requires an application to VT Northern Lights Career Development Center to verify both education and experience. <http://northernlightscdc.org/resources/applications/>

² A definition of related degrees can be found on the VT Northern Lights Career Development Center's website: www.northernlightscdc.org

CDD Bonus and Grant Eligibility

The applicant must:

- Be a Vermont resident.
- Be employed by a CDD regulated child care program.
- Demonstrate commitment to remain in the field for at least one year in Vermont.
- Complete the training, degree, and/or requirements for the certificate or credential within the past two years.
- Have not received a bonus from CDD in the past for this level certificate, degree or credential.

In addition:

- The program that the applicant works for is in good regulatory standing.
- The applicant is not paid on a teacher's salary schedule or equivalent.
- For Early Childhood Family Mental Health credential, the applicant must demonstrate a direct connection to child care.

Contact Person:

Lynne Robbins, Early Childhood and Afterschool Systems Specialist

DCF Child Development Division

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800-649-2642

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For information about the professional certificates or credentials in Vermont's Professional Development System contact:

Northern Lights Career Development Center

PO Box 489

Montpelier, VT 05601

802-828-2876

<http://northernlightscdc.org>

Application Deadline
By the first of any month