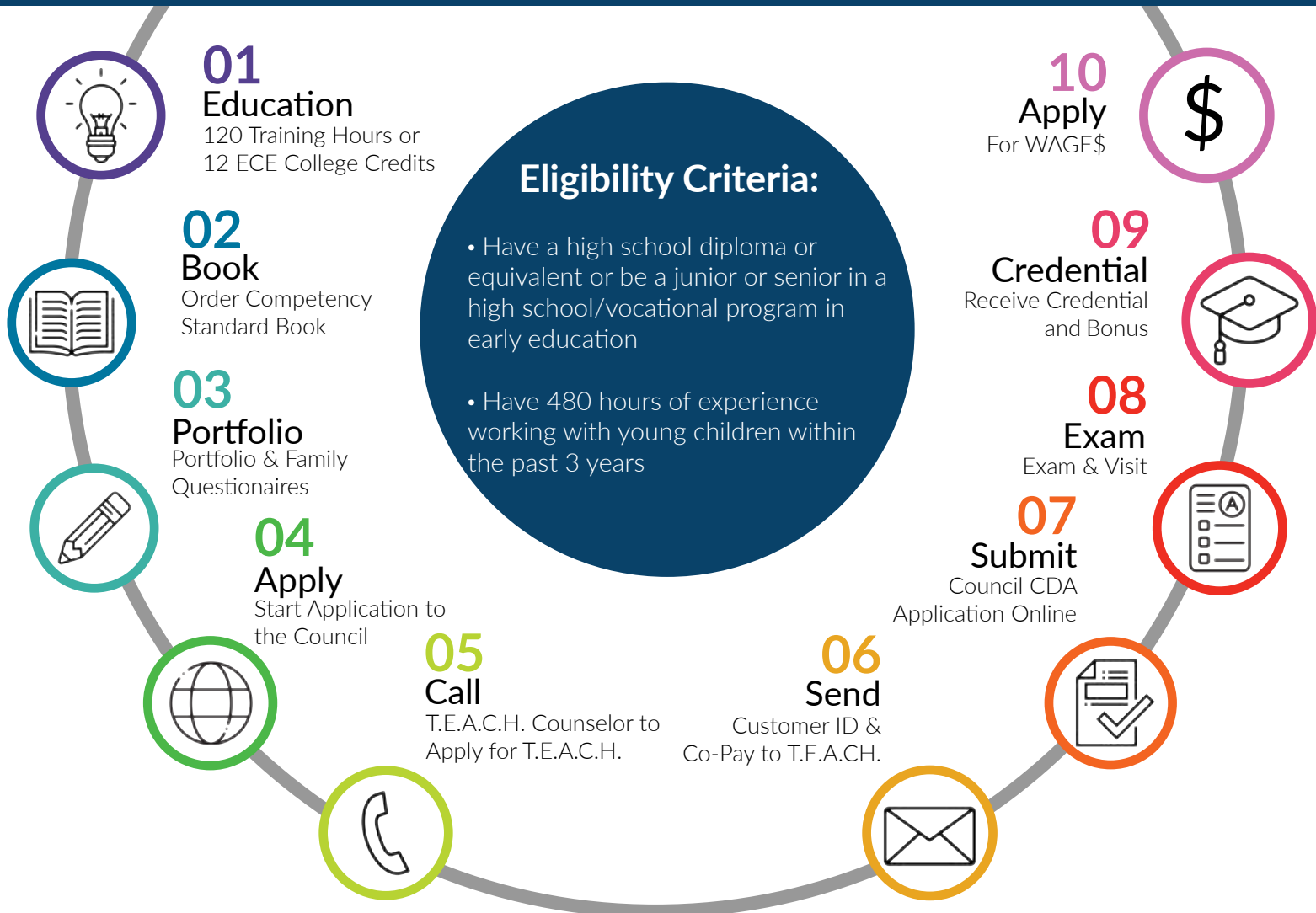


Simple Steps to Earn Your CDA

Follow the steps below to earn your Child Development Associate® (CDA) Credential™!



CDA Navigators work side-by-side with CDA Candidates to support and facilitate the CDA process.

Questions? Contact a CDA Navigator at:
cda@iowaaeyc.org



T.E.A.C.H. provides scholarships to support the cost of college coursework and the \$425 assessment fee for the CDA exam.

Questions? Contact a T.E.A.C.H. Counselor at:
teach@iowaaeyc.org



01

Candidates need 120 hours of Early Childhood training or college credits in eight subject areas. [Visit our website](#) to learn more about the subject areas and the Iowa Community College Early Childhood Alliance recommended coursework.



02

[Order the Competency Standard Book](#) through the Council for Professional Recognition (Council); choose the edition that matches the age group you work with. Cost is \$25. This book is needed for putting your portfolio together and contains required documents for the PDS visit. CDA Navigators offer a free copy.



03

Items that will need to be included in your portfolio: Summary of Education, Family Questionnaires, Reflective Statements of Competence, Resource Collection and Professional Philosophy Statement. Need help? Contact one of our CDA Navigators.



04

Once your portfolio is complete, start the [application to the Council](#).



05

The assessment fee to the Council costs \$425. [Apply to T.E.A.C.H.](#) for the CDA Assessment Scholarship. T.E.A.C.H will pay 85% of the assessment fee.



06

Send a picture of the customer ID # (found in [YourCouncil](#) profile) to your T.E.A.C.H. Counselor. Send \$65 Co-Pay to: Iowa AEYC, 6200 Aurora Ave, Suite 605E, Urbandale, IA, 50322.



07

Your counselor will send a voucher number to YourCouncil to enter into the Review and Payment page. This will let you complete the CDA Application. Once your application is complete, you will be able to schedule your Exam and PD Specialist visit.



08

Schedule your exam at a [PearsonVue testing center](#). Contact your PD Specialist to schedule your visit.



09

Once you have earned your CDA Credential, send a copy to your T.E.A.C.H. Counselor to receive your bonus.



10

After earning your CDA Credential, you could be eligible for the WAGE\$ program. [Click here](#) to learn more about WAGE\$ or contact a WAGE\$ Counselor at wages@iowaaeyc.org.