



# WCAA Updates

September 2012

## Making Training Count

Are you making full use of the training credit available in the classes you attend? Many providers know they need to have current CPR and First Aid but fail to provide copies of their cards to STARS. CPR and First Aid will each generate one hour in Health, Nutrition and Safety which count toward your biennium training requirements.

If you find a class or event in the community that you think would be useful to you as a child care provider, cross check the training calendar at [www.wykids.org](http://www.wykids.org) to see if it is approved for STARS credit. If it is not, and you think it could be, ask the event sponsor to call STARS about getting it approved.

If you have taken a college course that is focused on early care and education, it may also generate STARS credit which would count toward your licensing requirements.

## Training Records Available 24 –7!

Child care providers in Wyoming never have to wonder about their training records. All of your training history is available at your finger tips any time of the day or night. Just go to our secure web site, [www.wykids.org](http://www.wykids.org) and type in your STARS ID number and your password. You can view all the training you have completed in your career, your biennium training record by entering the dates for your biennium or CDA training record, if you are applying for or renewing a CDA. A tip on CDA transcripts is to be sure to put in the correct dates.

## Final Two Regional Workshop Opportunities

There are two opportunities left to attend one of the five DFS sponsored regional workshops, hosted at community colleges across the state. Register on-line at [www.wykids.org](http://www.wykids.org). You need your STARS ID number and password. You may pay the registration fee on-line with a credit card or print the form and mail a check to STARS.

- September 29 - Sheridan - Sheridan College, registration deadline is September 15.
- October 6 - Riverton - Central Wyoming Community College registration deadline is September 22.

Registration is \$10.00 per person. You may attend more than one.

## STARS Staff

Rose Kor  
STARS–Career  
Development Director  
[rkor@wykids.org](mailto:rkor@wykids.org)

Instructional  
Coordinator  
Currently open

Jessica Taylor  
STARS Assistant  
[jtaylor@wykids.org](mailto:jtaylor@wykids.org)

Rose Martin  
STARS Data Input  
Coordinator  
[rmartin@wykids.org](mailto:rmartin@wykids.org)

Jeff Ross  
Database Administrator  
[jross@wykids.org](mailto:jross@wykids.org)

Deanna Frey  
Executive Director  
[dfrey@wykids.org](mailto:dfrey@wykids.org)

Lori Tiegs  
Administrative Assistant  
[ltiegs@wykids.org](mailto:ltiegs@wykids.org)



STARS is a program of the Wyoming Children's Action Alliance. Other programs include Kids Count, Providers Empowering Providers and Pathways for Professional Development



3116 Old Faithful Rd., Ste. 100  
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001

## CDA Renewal Amnesty Ends in December 2012

Beginning March 1, 2012, the Council for Professional Recognition launched a Renewal Amnesty Program, which will allow anyone who has earned or renewed a CDA in the last ten years to apply for renewal, *even if their CDA has expired*. This means that if your CDA has a credential date of January 2002 or later, you are eligible for renewal amnesty. This program will only last until December 31, 2012. Go to the Council website, [www.cdacouncil.org](http://www.cdacouncil.org) for full details.

The cost to renew a CDA includes the cost of the renewal packet which is \$15 plus \$8 shipping and the \$50 renewal fee when you submit your renewal application.

An online application process is also available at [www.cdacouncil.org/yourcda](http://www.cdacouncil.org/yourcda).

---

### Requirements to gain a CDA:

1. Have a high school diploma or GED
2. Ability to speak, read, and write well enough to perform the responsibilities of a CDA candidate
3. In the past five years you have
  - 120 hours of formal training in early childhood education. *The Council defines formal education as 120 clock hours of instruction under the guidance of a eligible training agency or institution. We will not accept small group (1-2) consultation, staff meetings, or class preparation activities as meeting the requirement.*
  - 480 hours of professional experience working with children
4. In the last six months you have completed
  - A professional portfolio
  - Had a formal observation completed by a qualified CDA Advisor
  - Distributed and collected the required parent questionnaires
5. CDA certifications are offered in four settings, center-based infant-toddler, center-based pre-school, family home child care and home visitor.
6. Submit your application packet to become eligible to test and schedule a verification visit and pay the required fees.
7. Costs include the cost of training if not provided by your employer, the application packet is \$20 plus \$8 shipping and the direct assessment fee of \$325 and after May of 2013 there may be a fee to take the on-line test at one of the designated monitored testing sites.

---

### Training Required for Licensing on a Two-year Cycle

When child care providers receive their first license a cycle of training begins that is tracked over the next two years. During that time each provider needs to complete 30 hours of training approved by STARS. The training is classified in seven areas of knowledge and each provider must have one hour of training in each knowledge area.