

Child Development Practitioner (CDP) Apprenticeship Program – Reminders

Child Development Practitioner (CDP) is a non-compulsory apprenticeship program regulated by Skilled Trades Ontario (STO) under the *Building Opportunities in the Skilled Trades Act, 2021*. The Child Development Practitioner apprenticeship provides an alternate pathway to the traditional vocational training for those interested in becoming Early Childhood Educators (ECE). Apprentices that complete their apprenticeship training, which includes both on-the-job and in-school requirements, receive a Certificate of Apprenticeship from the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development (MLITSD). Certificate of Apprenticeship holders can then choose to bridge towards an Early Childhood Education (ECE) diploma at a College of Applied Arts and Technology (CAAT). (Typically, bridging occurs at the same college where the in-class requirements for the apprenticeship program were completed).

Things to Remember:

Individual assessment of educational qualifications:

- Skilled Trades Ontario (STO) does **not** conduct Trade Equivalency Assessments for Child Development Practitioner.
- If you have significant previous experience, are **not** interested in pursuing the CDP apprenticeship pathway as an educational pathway option and are interested in individual assessment of educational qualifications, please go to the following information link under the College of Early Childhood Educators (CECE):
<https://www.college-ece.ca/applicants/the-colleges-application-guide-for-the-individual-assessment-of-educational-qualifications/>

Why bridging from CDP to ECE is important?

- The Early Childhood Education diploma is a requirement for many positions in facilities regulated under the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014*.
- Ratio requirements under the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014* require an Early Childhood Education designation.

What is required for bridging from CDP to ECE diploma?

- To be eligible to bridge to an Early Childhood Education diploma, individuals must complete the Child Development Practitioner apprenticeship program and receive a Certificate of Apprenticeship (C of A) issued by the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development (MLITSD).
- After the issuance of the C of A, candidates must complete the bridging courses required by the designated College of Applied Arts and Technology (CAAT) that delivered their in-school apprenticeship program courses. More information on the pathway to becoming a Registered Childhood Educator in Ontario can be found [here](#).

Information on becoming a registered Early Childhood Educator:

For information about the eligibility criteria to become a Registered Early Childhood Educator (RECE) with the College of Early Childhood Educators, please visit www.college-ece.ca.