

# The TECTA Career Lattice

Professional development through higher education should be an essential component of your career growth and plan. As with your other life goals, it is recommended that you develop a personalized education plan designed to help you achieve those goals.

In the TECTA program, that plan is known as a career “lattice.” Unlike a career “ladder,” the lattice creates clear pathways for education and professional development, while also representing the many different types of jobs available as you move vertically and laterally through a career in Early Childhood Education.

Graduate Degrees  
M.S., M.Ed.  
Ph.D., Ed.D.

Bachelors’ Degrees  
B.S., B.A.

Associates’ Degrees  
A.S., A.A.,  
A.A.S.

Earn degrees in Early Childhood with support from TECTA

Technical Certificate

Earn 12-15 credit hours toward an Associate

Students who received their Technical Certificate through TECTA are 12-15 credits closer to earning an Associate Degree, at the same time receiving necessary credits for CDA renewal.

Child Development Associate (CDA)

After Orientation, TECTA provides mentorship and assistance with the application and verification visits required when completing the Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential process.

\*Courses from an accredited Institution

CDA Preparation Courses

Earn 12 credit hours toward an Associate Degree or Technical Certificate

**ECED 2310 Safe and Healthy Learning Environments**  
3 Academic Credits\*

**ECED 2315 Early Childhood Curriculum**  
3 Academic Credits\*

**ECED 2335 Clinical Practicum I**  
3 Academic Credits\*  
or  
**ECED 1310 Intro to ECE**  
3 Academic Credits\*

**ECED 2340 Family Dynamics and Community Involvement**  
3 Academic Credits\*

TECTA Orientation

Earn a TECTA Certificate of Completion

The 30-hour TECTA Orientation is the “gateway” to Child Development Associate (CDA) preparation and degrees, certificates, and credentials in Early Childhood. Choose from five specializations: Administrator, Center-Based, Infant/Toddler, School-Age, and Family Child Care.

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**Call or visit your local TECTA office for more information about how to get started. TECTA staff are available to discuss the training, education, and professional development opportunities that will enable you to accomplish your career goals.**

TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY  
**TENNESSEE EARLY CHILDHOOD TRAINING ALLIANCE**

[www.tecta.info](http://www.tecta.info)

TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY  
Center of Excellence for Learning Sciences

TN Department of Human Services

This project is funded through a contract with the Tennessee Department of Human Services and Tennessee State University, Center of Excellence for Learning Sciences.

TSU-14-0160(A)-7e-61085 – Tennessee State University is an AA/EEO employer.