

ACDS Quarterly Newsletter



F a l l 2 0 1 8

Counties currently offering classes:

- Berkeley
- Cabell
- Kanawha
- Harrison
- Logan
- Mercer
- Monongalia
- Nicholas
- Ohio
- Putnam
- Raleigh
- Upshur
- Wood



For a complete list of ACDS events, including anticipated orientations and class start dates, visit the ACDS website www.wvacds.org.

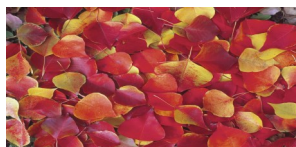
Get Involved With ACDS

Hello,

Fall ACDS classes have begun in all counties/county clusters across the state. This fall we have a total of 25 classes, including 8 first semester classes.

In 2019, ACDS will be celebrating 30 years. That is a huge milestone and we are planning a celebration in April at the Celebrating Connections Conference. We hope to have many journey-persons, apprentices, instructors and council members in attendance. As we continue to plan the celebration in the

upcoming months, more details will be available on the ACDS website, www.wvacds.org.



There are many ways to become involved in the ACDS program, other than being a student or an instructor. Each area has a local council that is made up of volunteers from the early childhood community. These council members help support the program in their area by

recruiting, by deciding when and where to have classes, and by reviewing student portfolios. Another way to become involved with ACDS is to be a mentor. Mentors are provided for students that do not have immediate supervisors, such as family providers and center directors/owners. Mentors are paid for the service they provide to the program.

For more information on how you can support ACDS in your area please contact the ACDS office.

~Jennifer

National Apprenticeship Week

This year, the fourth annual National Apprenticeship Week will be November 12-18. This is a week set aside to recognize the importance of apprenticeship programs across the United States. Apprenticeship programs and sponsors across the country will host events during this week to highlight the variety of programs available and the

impact those programs have on the work force and the economy across the country.

Did you know ACDS was the first early childhood apprenticeship program in the United States and will be celebrating 30 years in 2019! ACDS local councils across WV will host events/open houses during National Apprenticeship Week. In November, look for an

ACDS open house near you and take a moment to visit the event. Your support is crucial for the continued success of the ACDS program. We look forward to seeing you.



Journeyperson Questionnaire



A journeyperson is someone that has completed all four semesters of ACDS coursework and has received his or her Department of Labor Certificate. We currently have over 3,300 journeypersons and the number continues to grow each semester.

Recently, the ACDS program mailed a five question survey to all journey-

persons. If you are a graduate of the ACDS program and have not received a survey please contact the



ACDS office. Your address may need updated in our database.

The questionnaire gathers information regarding

where our journeypersons are employed and what kinds of positions they have. We will use the information to show how ACDS has impacted the field of Early Childhood in WV over the last 29 years.

We are very excited to receive this feedback from our journeypersons. This information may help the program with future planning and funding.

At the end of each semester, all apprentices will receive a survey monkey regarding their experience during the semester. Please take a moment to complete this brief survey. We appreciate your feedback.



First Semester ACDS

ACDS has recently completed the process of writing a new curriculum. The new curriculum has both similarities and differences to the Starting Points II Curriculum. To help you better understand the new curriculum, each newsletter over the next year will highlight a semester.

We will begin with the first semester, which was written to correlate with the WVIT I module. ACDS and WVIT I have made an articulation agreement, so that if a student has completed WVIT I he or she can enter into ACDS in second semester. A copy of the WVIT I certificate will satisfy as proof of completion. Participants of WVIT I that

intend to enter into ACDS can also start counting their on-the-job (OJT) training hours. WVIT I instructors have copies of the OJT log that participants can use to track their work hours.

First semester of ACDS focuses on infant/toddler development. Students will be introduced to health, safety and nutrition practices for this age group. Other lesson topics include: professionalism, ethics, diversity, observations, brain development, relationship development, motor development and temperament. Several theorists are also introduced in first semester, including: Bowlby, Ainsworth, Erikson, and Maslow.

Students in first semester can expect to have three quizzes, one being a final. Reviews are discussed in class the week prior to a quiz.

A final project is also included in each semester. In first semester the final project is a group assignment that focuses on the domains within the WV Early Learning Standards.

To successfully complete first semester students will need to complete with an 80% or higher, have an approved portfolio and submit all homework assignments.

Good luck to all first semester students.





Contact Information

ACDS promotes highly skilled, confident early childhood employees, quality early childhood classrooms, and informed supportive early childhood professionals.

Jennifer Conkle

ACDS Statewide Coordinator

Tara Kitts

ACDS Specialist



Contact Information

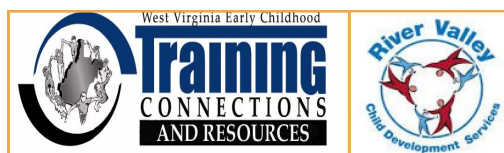
Address: 611 7th Avenue
Huntington, WV 25701

Phone: 304-523-0433

Fax: 304-697-6613

Website: www.wvacds.org

Email: wvacds@rvcds.org



This program is being presented with financial assistance as a grant from the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources and is administered by WV Early Childhood Training Connections and Resources, a program of River Valley Child Development Services.

Testimonial

“ I now understand how a child develops and I feel that I am more equipped to help children grow and develop.”

~ACDS Student



Questions and Answers

- **What do I need to apply for my Department of Labor (DOL) Certificate?**

To receive your DOL Certificate, you must first have completed all four semesters of course work and have the 4th semester ACDS completion certificate. You also must have accumulated between 3200-4000 on-the-job training hours (including any awarded previous experience credit).

After you have both of those complete, you can submit the DOL completion application along with copies of your supervisor evaluations, OJT logs and ACDS certificate to the ACDS office.

- **How can I get a final transcript?**

Send final transcript requests to the ACDS office. Final transcripts must have the original ACDS seal to be valid.

- **Do I need a mentor?**

Apprentices that do not have immediate supervisors are provided mentors. Family providers, directors and center owners are examples of students that would require a mentor. If you are a student of the program and do not have an immediate supervisor, please let your instructor know the first night of class.

“The wise shall learn”

Lailah Gifty Akita

