



Counties currently offering classes:

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

Fall 2018 classes will begin in August. Contact the ACDS office or your local council representative to register for First Semester.

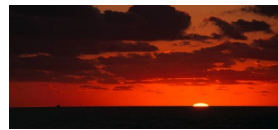


Get Involved With ACDS

Often when people think of ACDS they think of the classes— the students and the teachers. It is true that ACDS is an educational program, however there are many other different components and contributors that come together to make the program successful.

The ACDS program relies on local councils across the state to assist with the implementation of the program. Local council members are volunteers that typically meet two to three times a year and discuss when and where to have classes, recruit new instructors and discuss any

updates in the program. Local councils members are generally individuals from the early childhood community that value the ACDS program and



want to assist in implementing it their county. Local council members consist of journeypersons, instructors, directors and specialists from local resource and referral agencies. Local councils are essential to the ACDS program, and without active members it is difficult to

maintain ACDS classes in a region.

One member from each local council attends the State Executive Council meetings, which occur quarterly. This ensures that each county or county cluster that has ACDS classes is represented at the state level.

ACDS encourages you to become involved with your local council. Being involved requires a minimal amount of time, but is invaluable to the ACDS program. For more information on how to join your local council please contact the ACDS office.

Upcoming ACDS Events & Trainings

Instructor Academies—Requires Preapproval

- June 11-12 in Beckley from 9-4
- July 9-10 in Charleston from 9-4
- July 19-20 in Morgantown from 9-4



For a complete listing of events, including anticipated orientations and class start dates, visit the ACDS website, www.wvacs.org, and click on the calendar link!



Journeypersons

A journeyperson is someone that has completed the ACDS coursework, all required On-The-Job Training (OJT) hours and has received his or her Department of Labor (DOL) certificate.

If you are a graduate of the ACDS program, but have not submitted your OJT hours for your DOL certificate please contact our

office for assistance. It is important to submit your OJT logs as soon as you have accumulated 3200-4000.

In late summer or early fall, ACDS will be mailing all journeypersons a short 5 question survey. We ask that all journeypersons complete the survey and return it to our office. If you are a journeyperson

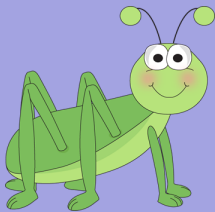
and have changed addresses since being in the program, please share with us your new contact information.

The survey will be used to study the economic impact ACDS has had on the state of WV over the past 29 years.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Summer Time Fun Activities

- Sidewalk art
- Picnics
- Water play
- Scavenger hunts
- Insect exploration
- Gardening
- Obstacle courses
- Camping
- Field trips
- Outdoor art projects
- Parades



Time for Outdoor Play!

The warmer weather is finally here! It's time to pull out the water play materials and the sunscreen. When you think of summers when you were growing up what comes to mind? What did you enjoy doing? Did you stay indoors and watch television or did you go outside? Do your memories include swimming, playing in the sand, or riding bicycles? Today, it seems many of our children are not as familiar with the adventures of being outside as we were as children. Research has shown that when the outdoor environment is used to support a school's curriculum, achievement is higher. We need to help young children

learn to appreciate and love the outdoors. We have to create deliberate and organized plans and activities to introduce them to outdoor play. Remember that the playground should be thought of as an extension of your classroom. Take time to arrange your outdoor classroom, just as you would inside. Develop interest areas, and take materials outdoors to support play and development in those areas. The outdoor play environment has to be inviting and draw the interest of the children. Once interested their imaginations can take over! Don't forget the most important part to both the indoor and the outdoor

environment—you!

Take the time to participate with the children during outdoor play. They are more likely to become involved because you are involved. This is the time of year that the children can assist you with planting and caring for vegetable and flower gardens. They can look for insects and discover species they never knew existed. They can even enjoy a quiet story time in the shade on a blanket. The possibilities are only limited by our imaginations! Enjoy the warm weather and share with the children all of the fun that can be had outdoors this summer!

Contact Us



Jennifer Conkle

ACDS Statewide Coordinator

Tara Kitts

ACDS Specialist

Contact Information

Address: 611 7th Avenue

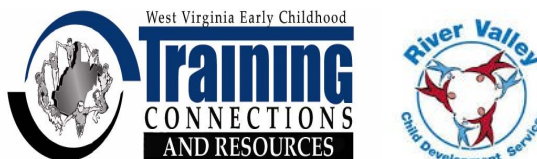
Huntington, WV 25701

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.

Did you know....
WV STARS offers a scholarship to assist you with pursuing your bachelor's degree in early childhood education? For more information on this opportunity visit the WVSTARS website, www.wvstars.org, and click on the scholarship link.

ACDS Questions and Answers

- How do I register for classes?

You can register for ACDS classes by contacting your local council representative or the ACDS office. Many of the local council representatives have their contact information available on the ACDS website, www.wvacds.org, beneath the contact tab.

- How many OJT hours do I need to complete the program?

To finish the training portion of the apprenticeship degree you must accumulate between 3200 and 4000 work hours. These hours can begin as soon as you attend orientation and can be continued until you have reached the required hours. You may also apply for previous experience hours. Previous experience hours are hours worked **prior** to beginning ACDS. The maximum amount of hours awarded for previous work experience is 800.

- Why do I need to do the homework assignments?

Homework is assigned each week during the semester. The time assessed for completing homework assignments is counted in the total number of training hours required by the Department of Labor each semester. It is essential to the success of every student to submit their homework on time and accurately. All assignments must be submitted by week 14 in order to successfully complete a semester.

“Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you will never cease to grow.”

Anthony J.
D'Angelo

