

ACDS Quarterly Newsletter



Winter 2018-19

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.

ACDS Celebrating 30 Years

We are heading into the 30th year of the ACDS program. The first class of ACDS was held in 1989 in Cabell County. Since then, the program has grown tremendously and has become statewide. Our program has been the model for other early childhood programs across the country. We were the first and are the longest running early childhood apprenticeship program.

Throughout the years there have been numerous individuals that have contributed to the success of the ACDS program. In 2019, we want to

honor the past, present and future participants and supporters of the program.

Each month of 2019 we will be highlighting either an apprentice, journey person, instructor, mentor or council member. We encourage you to submit nominees each month to be featured. The selected individual will be spotlighted on the ACDS website and Facebook page.

To nominate someone please send in a short letter describing why the person should be recognized, and if possible a picture of the person.

In April 2019 at the Celebrating Connections Conference, ACDS will be having a celebration in honor of the 30th anniversary. We intend to have guest speakers and highlight some of the program's accomplishments over the last 30 years. If you will be attending the conference plan on joining the celebration during lunch on Friday, April 12, 2019.

More details about all of the 30th anniversary events will be available on our website, www.wvacds.org.

~ Jennifer

Time to Celebrate

Congratulations Graduates!

This fall ACDS had graduating classes in the following counties:

- Berkeley
- Harrison
- Upshur

We hope the graduates of these classes had a positive experience as ACDS students. We recognize the

dedication and hard work involved in completing ACDS and we hope they are proud of all they have accomplished. We wish each graduate a bright and happy future in early childhood.



After graduating ACDS you may still be involved in the program by becoming a mentor or local council member. Mentors serve as supervisors for students that do not have direct supervisors. Local councils meet twice a year to discuss current happenings in the ACDS program and to determine the class schedule in their region. For more information, contact ACDS.

Journeyperson Questionnaire



Recently, ACDS mailed a questionnaire out to all journeypersons. This survey has five questions that we would like all journeypersons to answer. The answers to these questions will be reviewed and used to help ACDS better understand several things:

- How many graduates furthered their education

- How many graduates received pay raises
- How many graduates are still actively involved in the program
- How many graduates are still in the field of early childhood

ACDS can use this information in future planning, and also to gain a better understanding of the influ-

ence the program has had on early childhood in WV.

If you are a journeyperson and have received a questionnaire we urge you to fill it out and return it to the ACDS office. You can either mail it back, email or fax it. If you are a journeyperson and did not receive a questionnaire please contact us and we can provide you with a copy of it.

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



Second 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, we will highlight a semester in each newsletter until all four are covered.

This newsletter will cover second semester. This semester covers both infant/toddler and preschool development. The Infant/toddler focus is on language development, cognitive development and positive guidance. In regards to preschoolers, the semester highlights the importance of creative expression, social/

emotional development, physical health and approaches to learning. Theorists that are introduced in second semester include: Piaget, Erikson and Gardner.

Second semester includes three quizzes, one being a final exam. Class the week prior to an exam will include a review.

The final project in second semester involves creating a book list that represents five developmental domains and creating a story stretcher with one of those books. The story stretcher will be shared with the class so that students can learn from each other.

To successfully complete

second semester, students should submit all homework on time, miss no more than three classes and participate in class activities. A grade of 80% is required to complete the semester.

Students wishing to receive credit for work experience prior to starting ACDS will need to submit the previous experience credit application and supporting documentation during second semester.

Contact ACDS for more information about the new curriculum and to register for classes.



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

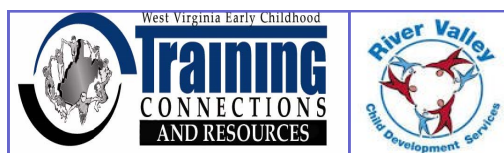
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This program is being presented with financial assistance as a grant from the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources and is administered by WV Early Childhood Training Connections and Resources, a program of River Valley Child Development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



Testimonial

“I am so glad that I’ve stuck with this program. It has helped me not only gain knowledge and experience, but also new perspectives and the ability to appreciate other methods.”

~ ACDS Student



“Early childhood education is the key to the betterment of society.”

Maria
Montessori

Questions and Answers



- **Do I need to submit all homework assignments?**

Yes, to receive credit for completing each semester **all** assignments must be turned in to the instructor.

- **How can I receive credit for the hours I worked prior to starting ACDS?**

To receive credit for time worked prior to ACDS, students will need to complete a Previous Experience Credit Application (on website www.wvacds.org). With this application needs to be documentation to support the requested time, such as timesheets or a W9. The time awarded will be credited toward the total amount of required work experience hours.

- **How can I get a replacement certificate from the Department of Labor (DOL)?**

If you have lost or misplaced your DOL certificate you may contact the ACDS office. We will verify your information and contact the DOL on your behalf. Please note that the actual certificate will come from the DOL and therefore will not be issued immediately.