

South Carolina State Head Start
Association
SCSHSA Sponsored
**Family Development
Credential Program**



HSPPS 1302.91 (e)(7) *Family services staff qualification requirements*. A program must ensure staff who work directly with families on the family partnership process hired after **November 7, 2016**, have within **18 months of hire**, at a minimum, a credential or certification in social work, human services, family services, counseling or a related field.

General Overview

The Family Development Credentialing (FDC) Program is a professional training & credentialing program for family workers. To earn the credential, workers take:

- 90-hour course
- Prepare a portfolio
- Pass a credentialing exam

Portfolios and exams are reviewed by the State credentialing agency. In South Carolina that is the *SC State Head Start Association (SCSHSA)*. Once the portfolio is approved and exam is passed, an FDC Credential is awarded by the **University of Connecticut**.

Who Should Take FDC course?

Anyone from a public, private or a voluntary agency who works directly with families. Including:

Family Advocates/Family Service Workers
Early Head Start & Head Start Staff
Child Care Partnership Staff
Case Managers
Family Worker Supervisors
Teachers
Home Based Visitors
Parents/Policy Council
Intake Workers
Early Intervention Staff
Emergency Services Workers
Outreach Workers
Crisis Intervention Staff
Weatherization
Housing Workers
Faith-Based Groups

Portfolios

A portfolio allows workers to demonstrate their knowledge & understanding of family development skills. This happens through completion of **3 basic components**:

**Activities to Extend Learning
Skills Practices
Family Development Plans**

At the end of every chapter workers choose from a selection of questions & prepare written responses that demonstrate implementation of concepts just learned.

Comments from FDC Participants

"I am not comfortable with public speaking but the opportunities given in this class to do group presentations has helped me begin to gain confidence when addressing the group."

"It reminded me that families in need of specialized services may or may not know they could benefit from services. Presenting information to them could be beneficial to their families."

"I like that we are not just having to sit in our chairs & write notes. The instructors make us think questions through."

Contact Information

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FDC Instructors

Instructors are trained professionals who live and work in their local communities. They have been trained in the curriculum, and are expected to practice the principles of family development & serve as role models to workers.

Requirements & Expectations:

- *schedule class sessions & recruit workers
- *Provide a course syllabus & portfolio
- *teach 90 hours of class
- *present activities to help workers learn strengths-based skills
- *administer the FDC exam

Portfolio Advisors

Act as role models for workers taking the FDC Program. Provide the opportunity to develop a strength-based partnership that

helps with the learning process of the program. As advisors, you teach & reinforce concepts & skills of family development as you discuss & review the materials.

Requirements & Expectations:

- *Must read the core FDC curriculum, *Empowerment Skills for Family Workers*
- *Attend some of the FDC classes
- *Good verbal & written communication skills
- *Must maintain confidentiality
- *Be able to listen well

Dates

Class 1: Sept. 2023 thru Feb 2024
(Location TBA)
Columbia, SC

\$750* (per in-state student)
\$900/out-of-state student

In-kind Available
(5+ Staff)

Purchase Orders accepted

Make checks payable to:
SCSHSA
PO Box 344
Greenville, SC 29602

**Payment in full required prior to start of course
(NO REFUNDS; possible course credit for next
session)**

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