



## CORE COMPETENCIES OF FDC COURSE

1. Family Development: A Sustainable Route to Healthily Self-Reliance
2. Communicating with Skill and Heart
3. Presence and Mindfulness: Cornerstones of Healthily Relationships
4. Taking Good Care of Yourself
5. One Diverse World
6. Strength-Based Assessment
7. Helping Families Set and Reach Their Own Goals
8. Helping Families Access Specialized Services
9. Home Visiting
10. Collaborating and Community Support



## COST-\$950

### The Fee Includes:

- **80 Hours of interactive instruction**
- **10 Hours of Individual Portfolio Advisement**
- **Empowerment Skills for Family Advocates**
- **Credential Fee**

**Contact:**  
**MHSA Family Development  
Credentialing State  
Coordinator**

[mhsa\\_fdc@md-hsa.org](mailto:mhsa_fdc@md-hsa.org)



## FAMILY DEVELOPMENT CREDENTIALING

RESEARCHED BASED & STRENGTH BASED  
FOR FAMILY ADVOCATES



Maryland Head Start Association

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

[WWW.MD-HSA.ORG](http://WWW.MD-HSA.ORG)



**HS Performance Standards  
1302.91 (e7)  
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 eighteen months of hire, at a minimum, a credential or certification in social work, human services, family services, counseling or a related field.

**WHAT THE RESEARCH SHOWS**

Research conducted on the outcomes of FDC training revealed that workers used family development skills in their professional and personal lives. Enhanced skills helped families develop their own goals of self-reliance.

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*Family Outcomes and School Readiness is increased when a Family Advocates communication and effectiveness is improved*

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**EARNING THE FDC**

**A Worker Must**

- Complete 90 hours of interactive classroom instruction based on the Empowerment Skills for Family Workers curriculum
- Prepare a Skills Portfolio with support of a portfolio advisor
- Pass a state credential exam

*Currently, the FDC is offered in only  
18 states*

**WHAT IS THE FDC PROGRAM?**

The FDC program at UCONN is a professional development course and credentialing program for Family Advocates to learn and practice skills of strength-based family support with families.

**PROGRAM HISTORY**

The FDC was established in 1996 through an interagency collaboration of 15 major state agencies and the New York State Council on Children and Families. New York State selected Cornell University to develop the FDC curriculum and administer the program. In August 2010, the FDC Program moved to the University of Connecticut's Center for the Study of Culture, Health & Human Development (CHHD). In 2014 National FDC joined UConn Department of Applied Health Sciences, where the FDC is jointly issued by CCHD and the Center for Environment Health & Health Promotion (CEHHP).

On July 20, 2017 MHSA became the Maryland State Coordinator for the Family Development Credential.