



Develop a Plan for Success

Do you work in child care or a related field? If so, a Gateways to Opportunity Professional Development Advisor (PDA) is available to assist you! Through this **free** service, a Gateways PDA can help you identify and achieve your professional goals.

Gateways to Opportunity will match you with a Professional Development Advisor (PDA) to help you plan and achieve your career goals. Whether you would like support selecting coursework, developing a career plan, or exploring ECE professions, a PDA can help. Each trained PDA has easy access to educational and financial resources to support you on your journey through career development or higher education. You can utilize a PDA's expertise for as little as one hour—or for as long as you need help making progress toward your career goals. This service is free.

A Professional Development Advisor will help you:

- Explore your professional goals and objectives
- Create a professional development plan
- Understand the differences between college certificates, degrees and credentials, and help you decide which is best for you
- Decide what courses and/or training to take to meet your goals and locate available coursework and training in your area
- Assist you in reviewing requirements for a degree in Early Childhood Education or Child Development
- Explore financial assistance for coursework or training
- Explore careers in the field of early care and education

PDA's are experienced veterans in the field of early care and education. PDA's have ready access to:

- Information on trends in higher education, how students can transfer credits from two-year to four-year institutions, and opportunities to develop leadership and communication skills
- Up-to-date information on new credentials as they become available through Gateways to Opportunity

Need a central resource to meet your professional development needs? Visit Gateways to Opportunity at www.ilgateways.com. Contact us by e-mail: pda@ilgateways.com or call 866.697.8278. We can help connect you to a Professional Development Advisor today!

