

Family Development & Credentialing

- Interactive instruction based on *Empowerment Skills for Family Workers*, a strengths-based family support curriculum developed by University of Connecticut
- Courses presented by community-based certified instructors trained and supported by the national FDC system
- An experiential and supportive adult learning environment that promotes discussion and reflection through peer learning
- Participants' Skills Portfolio documents practical application of course materials with guidance of a trained portfolio advisor
- Up to 6 hour's college credit hours available

Workers earn the nationally recognized and respected FDC Credential via successful completion of the FDC Course, an approved portfolio and passage of a standardized exam.

Tuition & Registration

*\$750 Tuition**

Includes:

90 Hours of Instruction
Course Manual & Handouts
Portfolio Review
National Exam Credential
Lunch will be Provided

*\$400 is due at registration

(\$200 is refundable if a cancellation notice is received 2 weeks prior to the start of the class)

*\$350 balance is due the 1st day of class

2020 FDC Course

9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Classes are scheduled for the following dates:

April 1/2	April 8
April 15	April 22
April 29/30	May 6
May 13	May 27
June 3	June 10
Review Class: June 17	

Exam Date: June 24
Portfolio Day June 25th

Registration Deadline:
March 18, 2020
Class Space is Limited!!!

Location: ARVAC Headquarters
2707 East H Street
Russellville, AR 72802

All students must have access to the internet, an email, and the ability to print. Binder, sheet protectors, highlighters, etc. are suggested for portfolio completion.

For more information about enrolling in the FDC course, please contact:

Tim Riley
479-229-4861, ext. 116
triley@arvacinc.org

or

Kelley Reames
479-963-6325 or 479-675-3429
kreames@arvacinc.org

The Family Development Training and Credentialing Program

FDC:
Transforming the Way



**Agencies Work with
Families**

90-hour certification for human service workers based on the principles of the University of Connecticut's Family Development Training and Credentialing (FDC) Program

FDC Course Sponsored by:
**Arkansas River Valley Area
Council, Inc. (ARVAC)**
479-229-4861
www.arvacinc.org

What is the story of FDC?

The FDC was established in 1996 at University of Connecticut through an interagency collaboration and funded by the NY Department of State's Community Services Block Grant Program.

Currently the FDC training and credentialing is being offered across the country through the University of Connecticut (UCONN) and its affiliates.

Northeast Arkansas's FDC course is being offered through an interagency partnership with Arkansas Community Action Agency Association (ACAAA) and CRDC. The course is taught by community-based instructors and portfolio advisors who are trained and certified by the UCONN affiliate.

FDC Core Competencies

1. Family Development: Sustainable & Healthy Self-Reliance
2. Communicating with Skill and Heart
3. Taking Good Care of Yourself
4. Diversity
5. Strengths-based Assessment
6. Helping Participants Set & Reach Goals
7. Accessing Specialized Services
8. Home Visiting
9. Facilitation Skills: Family Conferences, Support Groups, & Community Meetings
10. Collaboration

Why earn the Credential?

Earning a nationally recognized credential gives workers the opportunity to achieve a higher level of education and professionalism in their field. Increased job satisfaction is linked to lower burnout rates.

Additionally, participants being served by an agency through an FDC certified worker are enabled to set goals, practice skills, and restore a sense of self-satisfaction.

FDC trainees serve all types of individuals and families across the life span including young children, teen parents, seniors, people with disabilities and many other participants. The FDC is offered to workers from a wide range of government, private, and not-for-profit agencies as well as private industry.

Why is ARVAC, Inc. offering the FDC?

As part of ARVAC's efforts to improve participants' quality of care and self-sufficiency, the FDC is one component of our mission to provide comprehensive skills training to human service professionals.

By being a part of a cadre of human service workers trained in the same strengths-based principles, workers and organizations are enabled to develop a web of strengths-based services and standards, thus raising the efficiency and effectiveness of care. CRDC has selected the FDC as a model to develop strengths-based, interagency care.

What is the Family Development Training and Credentialing Program?

The FDC Program is a professional development course and credentialing program for front-line workers to learn and practice skills of strength-based support.

To earn the FDC, a worker:

- completes **90 hours** of interactive classroom instruction and portfolio advisement based on the *Empowerment Skills for Family Workers* curriculum
- prepares a **Skills Portfolio** with the support of a portfolio advisor, and
- passes a **credentialing exam**

Up to six hours of undergraduate credit is available for an additional fee. Applications will be provided in class.

What are the outcomes for FDC participants?

Research on the outcomes of FDC training revealed that workers:

- used skills in their professional and personal lives
- enhanced skills in helping participants
- develop their own goals of self-reliance
- increased the ability of participants to meet their goals

Agency supervisors reported FDC training:

- increased effectiveness in helping workers relate to participants
- improved communication among workers and participants