



Age-Specific Developmentally Appropriate Practices (DAP)

Available August 17, 2015 Online and Instructor-Led!

The Department of Children and Families Office of Child Care Regulation, in its ongoing effort to provide child care professionals in Florida with high-quality training, is releasing the age-specific Developmentally Appropriate Practice training as 5-hour courses, offered both online and as instructor-led. The course titles and acronyms are as follows:

- *Understanding Developmentally Appropriate Practices (UDAP)*
- *Infant and Toddler Appropriate Practices (ITPR)*
- *Preschool Appropriate Practices (PSPR)*
- *School-Age Appropriate Practices (SAPR)*

Effective August 17, 2015, the new 5-Hour online and instructor-led courses will replace the current 10-Hour DAP courses. The 5-Hour age-specific DAP courses (Infant and Toddler, Preschool, or School-Age Appropriate Practices) in combination with the 5-Hour Understanding Developmentally Appropriate Practices course may be used

to meet the 10-hour Part II Introductory Training Requirement, if the individual successfully completes the courses as evidenced by passage of the competency exams associated with the courses.

Students who complete the previous 10-Hour age-specific DAP courses (PSAP, ITAP, SAAP) prior to August 17, 2015 will have until March 31, 2016 to register for the corresponding competency exams.

Individuals who have completed the previous 10-Hour DAP courses to meet Part II training requirements do not have to retake the courses, and their existing certificates will remain on their child care training transcript. However, individuals may choose to take the new courses to earn CEUs or in-service credit.

Individuals completing any of the courses will have 60 days after course completion to earn CEUs.

Understanding Developmentally Appropriate Practices (UDAP)

This 5-hour course is an overview of the principles of developmentally appropriate practice. In order to use this course to meet the Part II mandated training requirement, individuals **must** complete this course with one of the age-specific courses (Infant and Toddler, Preschool, or School-Age Developmentally Appropriate Practices).

The Department strongly recommends completing this course prior to the age-specific course. Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to:

- Define the three principle components of DAP
- Describe the need for and components of quality child care
- Create parent involvement strategies
- Explain critical theories in child development
- Describe four key elements of the learning environment
- Identify the personal and professional characteristics of a quality caregiver

Infant and Toddler Appropriate Practices (ITPR) Preschool Appropriate Practices (PSPR) School-Age Appropriate Practices (SAPR)

Each of these courses explores the topic of developmentally appropriate practice as it relates to the identified age group for children in care. These courses build on the information presented in the Understanding Developmentally Appropriate Practices course. Upon completion of each course, participants will be able to:

- Explain how Developmentally Appropriate Practice applies
- Describe the theories of Piaget and Erikson
- Identify developmental alerts
- Explain the concept of play
- Describe an effective learning environment
- Explain positive guidance strategies
- Explain the importance of establishing quality relationships with the children in their care

