# Head Start focused learning programs.

HS University is a different type of school of learning. We only train Head Start professionals. By focusing only on Head Start employees, we ensure your training will exceed requirements. You'll see excellence in service. HS University offers a learning experience that's both customized and flexible, so you can achieve professional development goals as well as academic success!

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# **HS** University

# **CREDENTIAL PROGRAMS**





# HELPING **HEAD STARTS MOVING FORWARD**







## What are the benefits of a credential?

At HS University, we believe in the adage, "The only thing constant is change," especially when it comes to Head Start.

> A credential will build your expertise and advance your career. By earning a Credential, you gain advanced, Head Start-relevant skills that are recognize and respect as well as opportunities to connect with a national community of professionals around the US. Additionally, Credential provides you with access to exclusive resources and benefits, such as policy and procedure building tools, and training.

A credential at HS University is an "educational process" of establishing the qualifications of professionals in Head Start, Early Head Start, Migrant Head Start, American Indian/Alaska Native and Early Childhood employees. The process consists of the attainment of a specific skill level and knowledge of regulations and the assessing of the candidate's educational background and experience.

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### Why should I earn a credential at HSU?



Obtaining a credential is the next progression in a Head Start professionals career.

Beyond the educational degree, a professional credential denotes professional commitment and achievement and represents a "plus" feature of certifying knowledge and experience that meets or exceeds excellence in work at the national level. Head Start professionals agree to a critical review process that includes evaluation of the candidate's educational preparation, practice experience and peer review of observable skills and abilities.



# A CLOSER LOOK

Learning by trial and error on the job can help get you by for a while, but to learn specialized training is a must.

With the constant change in today's Head Start regulations, specialized support professionals and their employers need to ensure they're producing quality services and programs to the families they serve. Specialized training and credentialing can help your program to do just that.

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The demand for specialized and skilled Head Start employees is strong and growing on a daily basis. Agencies need to be assured that the professionals they hire can handle compliance and regulatory issues and still provide programs and resources that are beneficial to families.

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Being a Credentialed professional means you...

- **W** Become part of the most widely recognized work organization in the nation.
- Are recognized as having in-depth knowledge, proven work experience, leadership capacity, competence and dedication to the Head Start work profession.
- Agree to a critical review process that strives to measure adherence to a Code of Ethics, Standards of Continuing Education and Head Start standards in the area of specialized work practice.
- V Help Head Start programs seek out highly credentialed professionals to fill key leadership positions within their program and factor in the credential in their salary scales.

# Credential Programs

#### **CREDENTIAL LEVELS**

- Specialist Credential is designed for professionals who are responsible for collecting, reporting managing and monitoring daily compliance issues
- Administrator Credential is designed for professionals who are responsible for implementing policies and procedures of regulations requirements in a Head Start environment.
- Trainer Credential is designed for professionals who are responsible for ensuring training and professional development of staff.

#### **CREDENTIAL TYPES**

- -Health Services
- Education
- Family Engagement
- Program Management
- ERSEA