



Purpose:

To provide a 12-month theological and practical training program for those in Children's Ministry within the local church

Who:

All eligible Children's Directors, Children's Ministry staff, or Children's Ministry volunteers who are currently working or volunteering in the local church

Requirements for Acceptance in Certification Program:

- 1) Have worked or volunteered in a specific role within Children's Ministry for at least 6 months
- 2) Complete application process and accepted by CDM Staff
- 3) Approval by applicant's current church Pastor, supervisor, and Session

Cost of One-Year Program:

\$1900 for the year

This covers webinars, training resources, and the registration cost of the Children's Ministry Leadership Retreat at Ridge Haven.

*Books are not covered in this cost. *

General Requirements for Certification:

- Complete monthly webinars and assigned training
- Complete corresponding assignment
- Complete assigned reading and written summaries
- Attend the annual spring Children's Ministry Leadership Training Retreat at Ridge Haven
- Write final paper
- Have 1 mentor throughout the course of the year (info below)

Mentor Requirements:

- A mentor from your church's Session or leadership team must be approved by the CDM staff team. You will meet once a month with your mentor for encouragement to discuss the topics you are learning and to go over completed assignments. The goal is that you will discuss how these topics connect to your role within the church.

Time Expectation:

Each month of the program will be a little different, but our expectation is that you would spend a minimum of 10 hours a month working on the certification.

Grading System:

Each month the mentor from your church will fill out a 1-page evaluation report after the monthly meeting. These reports will be used in the overall review of the year.

Completion of Certification Program:

- The Certification Program will go from January through December. All webinars and assignments must be completed according to the timeline of the course.
- There will be a review team made up of the student's mentor, as well as a designated person from the CDM team who will be reviewing all assignments and participation for each student. Each student must complete assignments to the best of their ability and on time. All students must participate in the full year of webinars and course work in order to receive their Certificate of Training at the end of the year. The review team will make the final decision if the student passes the certification training.
- Once a student passes the 12 months of certification training, they will receive an official Certificate of Training in Children's Ministry from the PCA denomination.

Graduation:

- Once a student has received a Certificate of Training, CDM will contact their home church and will provide a program template to be used as a model for celebrating the graduate.
- The Committee on Discipleship Ministries will recognize all participants at the Ridge Haven Leadership conference in the spring following completion of the program. This will be CDM's official graduation ceremony. Attendance to the graduation is not required and is not covered by the certification tuition, but we hope all will try to attend.

Where Hearts & Minds *Connect*
for Practical Ministry