

Richland One Early Learning Courses and Career Pathways

Beginning in Florida with its Early Learning Florida statewide professional development system, the University of Florida Lastinger Center has expanded to provide professional learning opportunities to early childhood educators across the country. Early Learning South Carolina provides Richland One with online courses and Communities of Practice for early childhood practitioners.

The UF Lastinger Center proposes the **Instructor Credential** to develop instructor capacity within the District to guide one or more of the following professional development options:

1. **Online, instructor-led course** with cohort of up to 30 early childhood educators
2. **Micro-credential** (two online courses plus capstone) for up to 30 early childhood educators
3. **Specialization** (three micro-credentials) for up to 30 early childhood educators

Instructor Credential

The UF Lastinger Instructor Credential prepares instructors to lead our online courses. This professional development experience requires and includes tools to develop instructors' capacity to facilitate effective one-on-one adult learning experiences and create a culture of reflection and experimentation. In implementing these research-based strategies with practitioners, instructors will create a plan that will be tailored to both the course content and the relevant context of each individual.

Specializations

Practitioners can earn a specialization through the UF Lastinger Center by completing **three specified micro-credentials** and a specialization **capstone experience**. A specialization can include the Child Care Associate (CDA) Credential. The UF Lastinger Center is in final stages of completing the Gold Standard designation with The Council for Professional Recognition for its CDA course pathways. Practitioners can select one or more specializations that they wish to complete within the UF Lastinger Center's career planning tool. Upon selection, required courses for completion are provided and progress is tracked to help practitioners know what they have left to complete. Upon successful completion, the specialization is awarded in the form of a certificate to the individual.