Bright Horizons University

eCDA Program

A Great Opportunity for You!
You play a significant role in the development of children and offer support to their families. We want to ensure that you keep learning and developing too. The Bright Horizons University Child Development Associate (eCDA) Program is one way you can take the next step in your career.

Gain Professional Recognition
The CDA is a professional credential that is recognized by early childhood educators nationwide. An important milestone in your professional development, the CDA can lead to other credentials, such as an associate's or a bachelor's degree. Applying for CDA assessment is a big commitment. However, it is also a very rewarding experience.

Earn Through E-Learning
The Bright Horizons University eCDA Program is a high-touch, high-tech, e-learning course track that takes an innovative approach to earning this important credential. A self-paced program, it enables early childhood professionals like you to gain the knowledge and skills you need to provide high-quality services for children from birth to age 5. Its 13 modules are based on the CDA competency standards in the United States. Candidates are organized into cohort groups of about 20 others from different geographic locations and are guided through the modules by a facilitator. Specifically, each module includes:

- **Online Training:** The online portion leads users through a series of interactive scenarios, questions, and activities. CDA candidates resolve problems similar to those encountered on the job.
- **Learning Guide:** You will alternate the online learning activities with completion of the Learning Guide, which will have readings, resources, questions, and activities (such as observations and self-assessments).
- **Online Discussion:** Participation in an online “blog” provides an opportunity to ask and respond to questions and dialogue with your peers about the module content.
- **Group Conference Call:** Monthly hourlong conference calls with other members of your group allow you to share information and discuss content of the modules.
- **Individual Call:** Once a month, you also participate in a half-hour, one-on-one call with your assigned facilitator to discuss your progress, the module’s content, the CDA requirements, and any questions you may have.

Each of the eCDA’s 13 modules will take about one month to complete, so finishing the program requires a commitment of more than one year. All of these activities will make up the 120 hours of formal early childhood education required by the CDA Council of Professional Recognition.

We Support Your Growth at Virtually No Cost to You
Bright Horizons covers all the costs of offering the eCDA with the exception of a CDA Council Application packet of materials, which is less than $30. Employees who participate do not pay tuition, but are enrolled in a credentialing program that is equivalent to other professional development programs offered in colleges or other training programs.