

## Certificate Program

Smart Horizons Career Online Education offers online educational programs designed to provide the workforce skills necessary to enter a new field or advance your current career. Our Online Programs provide the most effective online training.

Smart Horizons Career Online Education is fully accredited as an online school district by the [AdvancED Accreditation Commission](#), the national commission that confers the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI) accreditation seal.

The amount of time to complete our programs varies from student to student. Students are assigned a Career Counselor who assists the students with setting an achievable study/completion schedule, within the given 6 month completion window (per program).

To earn a certificate in **Child Development Associate (CDA)**, students must complete **120 clock hours** of training. The cost for the full program is \$600 and does not require any additional materials.

### CDA-101: Child Development Associate

#### **Overview of Program**

The certificate program in Child Care & Education teaches and prepares students to obtain the national Child Development Associate (CDA) certification and employment as a childcare worker. Courses include information related to the following topics:

- Advancement of physical and intellectual development
- Principles of child growth and development
- Enhancement of social and emotional development
- Observing & recording progress/behavior of children
- Positive relationships with families
- Commitment to professionalism
- Effective program operation
- Safe and healthy environments for children and childcare workers



#### **Career Courses in Program**

- [Child Care & Education 1](#)
- [Child Care & Education 2](#)
- [Child Care & Education 3](#)
- [Child Care & Education 4](#)

#### **Accreditation**

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### **What do students graduate with?**

- Self-study CDA certificate from Smart Horizons Career Online Education that meets the 120 clock hours of professional development required by The Council for Professional Recognition in order to obtain the National CDA credential\*

Employment and certification as a CDA may require a high school diploma. If you do not have a diploma, check out our [diploma-plus-certificate CDA program](#).

*\*This program meets the 120-clock-hour requirement needed to earn a CDA but does not grant the actual national CDA credential, which is granted by the Council for Professional Recognition. For specific requirements in your state, visit [www.cdacouncil.org](http://www.cdacouncil.org).*