

Childhood Development Associate Certification Program

Division of Social Sciences - Curriculum Code 0204

Why enroll in the Childhood Development Associate Certification Program?

This program offers three courses that will prepare students to take the national Childhood Development Certification (CDA) exam. The courses provide the theoretical and practical foundation for obtaining a CDA certification. The certification is necessary for working as paraprofessional teachers in an early childhood classroom.

If I complete the Childhood Development Associate Certification Program, can I transfer to an upper-division college or university?

This program is career-oriented and not designed for transfer.

Are there any requirements I must satisfy before I start taking the program courses?

You must be a high school graduate or possess a GED. You also need to have accumulated, or be in the process of accumulating within five years, a total of 480 hours of experience working with children from infancy through five years of age in a group setting.

How long will it take for me to complete this program?

Depending upon your prior education and work experience, the program may be completed within one year.

Where should I direct specific questions about this program?

Contact the Division at (973) 877-3250 for referral to a faculty advisor.

Upon completion of this program, graduates will be able to:

- ◆ Demonstrate a thorough understanding of the principles of instruction in an early childhood setting;
 - ◆ Apply practical skills necessary for successful completion of the certification process;
 - ◆ Prepare and complete professional resource files;
- and
- ◆ Demonstrate an understanding of professional standards and practice skills in a professional setting.