Bachelor of Science in

EARLY CHILDHOOD ADMINISTRATION

Come Back Stronger. Move Your Education Career Forward.

Are you ready to make a difference in the lives of our youngest learners? This is your time. Your moment. Earn your bachelor's degree and meet the demand for talented professionals equipped to provide developmental and learning opportunities for children ages 0–8. Our program prepares you for opportunities in a variety of fields, whether you want to operate or own your own early childhood program, or manage an early childhood agency or organization. Take the next step in your life and your career.[1]

PURDUE GLOBAL™

Why Study Early Childhood Education at Purdue Global?

Built for Working Adults

Complete courses online, without compromising your work or family schedule. You'll also gain practical experience through hands-on field components in an early childhood environment.

Backed by the Power of Purdue

Earn a degree you can be proud of — and one that employers will respect. Achieve more in the early childhood administration field with a name that opens doors in your career.

Your Experience Counts as College Credit

It's time to get the recognition you deserve. Transfer up to 75% of your degree requirements to graduate sooner and save on tuition.[2]

Affordable Tuition

You can lower the cost of your education through military tuition reductions, employer reimbursement options, transfer credit, and more.[3] Bachelor's graduates with prior learning credits saved an average of nearly 50% on tuition.[4] You're worth the investment.

Expert Faculty

Learn from early childhood education professionals with the real-world experience to know what it takes to succeed in the field. All faculty possess advanced academic degrees and relevant industry credentials.

Personal Support

Work directly with faculty through online discussion boards and seminars, and enjoy no-cost individual tutoring. In addition, academic and career advisors are dedicated to helping you balance school with your career and life responsibilities.

Introductory Trial Period

Make sure online learning at Purdue Global is right for you. Enroll in the University and try our classes for 3 weeks — before you owe any tuition. That's the Purdue Global Commitment.[5]

An Education That's Proven and Respected

Purdue Global is part of the respected Purdue University system. One of the most prestigious research universities in the world, Purdue is ranked #16 most innovative company in the world alongside Open AI, NASA, and Microsoft.[6]

Prepare for the Child Development Associate Credential

The course CE101: Introduction to Early Childhood Education meets the 10 hours of training in each of the eight Child Development Associate (CDA) subject areas that are required for the highly regarded CDA credential. The eight areas include:

- Planning a safe and healthy learning environment
- Advancing children's physical and intellectual development
- Supporting children's social and emotional development
- Building productive relationships with families
- Managing an effective program operation
- Maintaining a commitment to professionalism
- Observing and recording children's behavior
- Understanding the principles of child development and learning

Many states require the CDA credential for those who wish to take on the role of director of child development.

If you already hold a valid and current CDA credential, (preschool, infant-toddler, or family child care) you may be eligible to receive this credit:

PURDUE GLOBAL COURSE	QUARTER CREDITS
CE101—Introduction to Early Childhood Education	5
CE114—Early Childhood Development	5
CE220—Child Safety, Nutrition, and Health	5

For more information on the CDA, see the Council for Professional Recognition website.

Curriculum

Our comprehensive curriculum blends multiple disciplines. The courses are reviewed and revised regularly by industry experts to ensure they reflect the most recent developments and practices in the field of early childhood education.

Courses Include:

- Early Childhood Development
- Early Childhood Curriculum Planning
- Child Safety, Nutrition, and Health
- Young Children With Special Needs
- Human Resource Management
- Introduction to Psychology
- Child and Adolescent Psychology
- Observation and Assessment in Early Childhood
- Funding Development and Financial Planning in Early Childhood Programs
- Early Childhood Administration
- Current Issues and Trends in Early Childhood
- Early Childhood Family, Community, and Advocacy
- Organizational Communication

Capstone Course

The program culminates in a final capstone, which gives you the opportunity to apply the skills and concepts you study online to real-world early learning scenarios. As part of it, you will complete a 5-hour field component in a Head Start, Early Head Start, or daycare/preschool working with young children. This is also a great opportunity to develop resources that you can use in your future career.

Program Detail

Credit Hours: 180

Completion Time: 2–4 years. Purdue Global online bachelor's degree graduates have an average completion time of just over 2 years due to transfer credit and other prior experience. Speak with your Advisor to learn how your prior learning may impact your time to completion.[7]

Course Load: 2–3 per term

Terms: 10 weeks long

Start Dates: Throughout the year

Additional Programs

Bachelor's Degrees

- Human Services
- Psychology in Applied Behavior Analysis
- Communication

Master's Degrees

- Education
- Educational Psychology
- Instructional Design and Technology
- Psychology
- Public Administration

GET A HEAD START ON YOUR MASTER'S DEGREE

Complete your master's degree sooner with a graduate program pathway. It weaves graduate-level courses into your bachelor's program, giving you a jump on your master's degree requirements. You'll save on time and tuition compared with finishing both programs separately.

Plus, your degrees don't have to be in the same fields. You can customize your academic journey to support your career goals and interests. To learn more, view the University Catalog or connect with an Advisor.[8]

Career and Networking Opportunities

Industry Outlook[9]

- A bachelor's degree and experience in early childhood education are typically required to become a preschool and childcare center director.
- In addition, many states require the Child Development Associate credential for those who wish to take on the role of director of child development.

Career Pathways and Outcomes[1]

Roles

- Program coordinator
- Community service manager
- Head Start director
- Early childhood consultant
- Childcare center director or worker
- After-school program worker
- Preschool director

Settings

- Early childhood programs
- Childcare centers
- Prekindergarten programs
- Head Start programs
- Before- and after-school childcare environments

The Center for Career Advancement

Our team of Career Specialists connects you with job and networking opportunities, and offers the following assistance:

- Career assessment/exploration
- Resume and cover letter review
- Interview preparation/mock interviews
- Portfolio development to showcase your skills
- Assistance in building an online presence
- Job search and networking support
- Virtual career fairs
- 24/7 online access to job openings and career development tools

Student Organizations and Honor Societies

Autism Speaks U

Educators' Association

Accredited by the Higher Learning Commission

The HLC (HLCommission.org) is an institutional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

Military Friendly

We offer reduced tuition rates for servicemembers, veterans, and spouses.

Contact an Admissions Advisor at 844-PURDUE-G or visit PurdueGlobal.edu.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: PLEASE READ

For comprehensive consumer information, visit Info.PurdueGlobal.edu.

1 Purdue Global cannot guarantee employment or career advancement. Additional training or certification may be required. In addition, job titles and responsibilities may vary by organization.

2 Purdue Global does not guarantee transferability of credit. See the University Catalog for the Prior Learning policy.

3 May not be combined with other Purdue Global tuition reductions or ExcelTrack® pricing.

4 Purdue Global online bachelor's degree students who graduated in 2024–2025 and applied eligible prior learning (transfer, experiential, or credit by exam) credits received an average of 85 credits toward their degree. Purdue Global does not guarantee transferability of credit. See University Catalog for the Prior Learning policy. Source: Office of Reporting and Analysis, 2024–2025 academic year.

5 Students who inform Purdue Global they do not wish to pursue the program during the 3-week trial will not be charged. Students who choose to continue at Purdue Global will be billed for the full first term's tuition, including the 3-week trial, and will need to meet other specific requirements. Classes will be applied toward a degree if satisfactorily completed and students select to continue their studies at Purdue Global. No credits are earned if the student withdraws during the introductory period (3 weeks for new qualifying undergraduate students), which begins day one of the first term. Graduate programs and BS in Professional Flight not included. Additional terms may apply to international and non-U.S. citizen students. For further information, see the University Catalog.

6 Source: www.fastcompany.com/most-innovative-companies/2023. Ranking applies to Purdue University West Lafayette and not to Purdue Global.

7 Average completion time for Purdue Global online bachelor's degree graduates is based on the most recent academic year, updated annually, for which data is available. Source: Purdue Global Office of Reporting and Analysis.

8 Estimated graduation date is based on the assumption that you will enroll in time to begin classes on the next upcoming start date, will remain enrolled for each consecutive term, and will maintain satisfactory academic standing in each term to progress toward completion of your program. Completion time is based on a full-time schedule. Programs will take longer for part-time students to complete.

To start a Graduate Program Pathway, students should consult with their Student Advisor to confirm eligibility. Not all Graduate Program Pathways are available on all tracks, and some may require students to meet academic standards to continue taking graduate courses in their bachelor's degree program. Visit the University Catalog for more information.

9 Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Outlook Handbook, Preschool and Childcare Center Directors. National long-term projections may not reflect local and/or short-term economic or job conditions, and do not guarantee actual job growth.

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