Professional Development Course Offerings

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Browse the brightwheel Professional Development course list by clicking on each link to access courses grouped by CDA Competency areas. The brightwheel PD team adds 5-10 new courses each month.

Note: some courses may be under review in your state and might not appear in the course catalog until approval is complete.

🔗 **CDA Competency Area 1: Planning a safe and healthy learning environment**

🔗 **CDA Competency Area 2: Advancing children's physical and intellectual development a safe and healthy learning environment**

🔗 **CDA Competency Area 3: Supporting children's social and emotional development**

🔗 **CDA Competency Area 4: Building productive relationships with families**

🔗 **CDA Competency Area 5: Managing an effective program**

🔗 **CDA Competency Area 6: Maintaining a commitment to professionalism**

🔗 **CDA Competency Area 7: Observing and recording children's behavior**

🔗 **CDA Competency Area 8: Understanding principles of child development and learning**

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Course Title	Course Description
Teaching Safe and Healthy Routines with Preschoolers	Discover the importance of safe and healthy routines in supporting children's well-being and explore strategies to create predictable routines for daily success.
Health, Safety & Nutrition	Explore foundational practices in health, nutrition, and safety through the introduction of practical tools to promote childhood well-being.
Naptime for Healthy Children	Explore how rest supports preschoolers, health and development, and learn key strategies to create successful, consistent naptime routines.
Classroom Management and the Teacher	Learn how to support young children's development through strategies to support your classroom organization and consistent routines to build predictability.
An Introduction to Healthy Nutrition	Learn the fundamentals of balanced meals and strategies to promote lifelong healthy eating habits in early childhood settings.
Outdoor Interactions & Environment for Preschoolers	Learn to create purposeful outdoor environments through strategies that foster children's safety, imagination, and development while they explore outdoors.
Building Routines for Preschoolers	Discover the importance of establishing consistent routines and schedules to help preschoolers with predictable patterns to support their growth and development.

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CDA Competency Area 2: Advancing children's physical and intellectual development a safe and healthy learning environment

Course Title	Course Description
Art, Music and Movement in Early Childhood	Explore strategies to support children's creativity and imagination through an introduction to art, music, and movement activities that foster self-expression.
Cognitive and Language Development	Explore intentional strategies to support children's cognitive and language development through this introductory course.
Language and Literacy in Early Childhood	Explore key strategies to build early language and literacy skills through an introduction that supports early skills for success.
Large Group Circle Time for Preschoolers	Learn to plan and engage preschoolers with developmentally appropriate circle time activities that support learning outcomes.
Math and Science in Early Childhood	Discover effective ways to introduce math and science concepts to young children through engaging content, methods, and materials.
Nurturing Early Learning through Engaging Interactions and Environments	Learn to support children's continual growth and development through making everyday moments intentional interactions to engage learning.
Responsive Caregiving and Relationships Building	Explore responsive caregiving and discover the benefits of fostering strong emotional relationships for children's growth and development.
Scaffolding Learning	Explore scaffolding techniques and discover strategies to guide children's growth and development.
Sensory Play and Sensory Fun with Toddlers	Learn about toddler development through sensory-rich experiences that promote learning and explore strategies to promote curiosity, regulation, and growth for young children.

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CDA Competency Area 2: Advancing children's physical and intellectual development a safe and healthy learning environment

Course Title	Course Description
Teaching Dual Language Learners	Discover new strategies to support children learning a second language through this introductory course on dual language acquisition.
Teaching Safe and Healthy Routines with Preschoolers	Discover the importance of safe and healthy routines in supporting children's well-being and explore strategies to create predictable routines for daily success.
The Brain Architecture - Understanding Brain Development in Young Children	Discover the architecture of the brain and explore how experiences and relationships impact development.

CDA Competency Area 3: Supporting children's social and emotional development

Course Title	Course Description
Building a Preschool Classroom Community	Explore strategies to build inclusive classroom communities that foster belonging, connection, and confidence among children and families.
Building Preschool Friendship Skills	Learn how to support preschoolers in developing core friendship skills through purposeful, responsive teaching and social-emotional guidance.
Building Resilience in Young Children	Explore the connection between adversity and resilience and learn techniques to foster coping skills for young children.
Infant and Toddler Development and Biting	Learn a different approach to the causes of biting beyond the behavior itself and discover ways to support prosocial behaviors that discourage biting in toddlers.

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Course Title	Course Description
Large Group Circle Time for Preschoolers	Learn to plan and engage preschoolers with developmentally appropriate circle time activities that support learning outcomes.
Nurturing Early Learning through Engaging Interactions and Environments	Learn to support children's continual growth and development through making everyday moments intentional interactions to engage learning.
Responsive Caregiving and Relationships Building	Explore responsive caregiving and discover the benefits of fostering strong emotional relationships for children's growth and development.
Scaffolding Learning	Explore scaffolding techniques and discover strategies to guide children's growth and development.
Sensory Play and Sensory Fun with Toddlers	Learn about toddler development through sensory-rich experiences that promote learning and explore strategies to promote curiosity, regulation, and growth for young children.
Social and Emotional Development	Explore the foundations of social and emotional development through this introduction to ways to support children express feelings, build relationships, and cope with stress.
The Brain Architecture - Understanding Brain Development in Young Children	Discover the architecture of the brain and explore how experiences and relationships impact development.

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CDA Competency Area 4: Building productive relationships with families

Course Title	Course Description
Partnering with Families	Explore the benefits of partnering with families to increase opportunities for young children's development and learn new strategies to build effective communication, collaboration, and shared experiences.
Building Positive Communication with Families around Behaviors	Discover strategies to build trust with families, view behavior as communication, and use inclusive language to create consistent, strengths-based approaches.
Building Culturally Responsive Partnerships with Families	Explore strategies to build respectful, goal-oriented partnerships with families that support children's learning across diverse cultures and languages.

CDA Competency Area 5: Managing an effective program

Course Title	Course Description
Super Staff Supervision	Learn reflective supervision techniques to support staff relationships, reduce stress, and encourage professional growth through active listening and collaborative reflection.
Time Management and the Teacher	Discover how time management can boost classroom efficiency and reduce teacher stress to build more opportunities for interactions with children.
The Business of child care	Learn the six key areas of child care business management, including legal basics, budgeting, and growth planning, to strengthen your program's foundation and success.

CDA Competency Area 6: Maintaining a commitment to professionalism

Course Title	Course Description
Time Management and the Teacher	Discover how time management can boost classroom efficiency and reduce teacher stress to build more opportunities for interactions with children.
Understanding Ethical Practices in Early Childhood	Explore NAEYC's Code of Ethical Conduct and learn how ethical principles guide daily decisions in early childhood settings through reflection, real-world scenarios, and interactive activities.

CDA Competency Area 7: Observing and recording children's behavior

Course Title	Course Description
Observing Children	Learn purposeful observation strategies to better understand and support each child's development.
Observing Creativity	Learn strategies to nurture creativity through art, music, and dramatic play, using documentation to support development and engagement.
Observation Portfolios to support Assessment	Discover how to create and use observation portfolios to document learning, assess development, and support children's growth.
Observing Social and Emotional Development	Learn to observe self-esteem, emotional competence, and social skills to support children's social and emotional growth.
Observing Cognitive Development	Explore the four stages of cognitive development and learn observation and documentation strategies to support children's learning.
Understanding Children's Assessments	Explore formal and informal assessment tools and learn how to use them effectively to support learning, inform teaching, and partner with families.

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Course Title	Course Description
Child Development	Learn foundational concepts in early childhood settings and be introduced to developmentally appropriate practices.
Continuity of Care for Infants and Toddlers	Explore how consistent, responsive caregiving promotes secure attachment and healthy development, and take steps to implement continuity of care in your program.
Exceptional Children and Inclusive Practices	Learn to support the unique needs of all children by ensuring inclusive practices in this introductory course that supports fostering equitable learning environments.
Interactions and Infants	Learn about serve-and-return and explore strategies that support positive interactions that impact infant brain development.
Math and Science in Early Childhood	Discover effective ways to introduce math and science concepts to young children through engaging content, methods, and materials.
Nurturing Early Learning through Engaging Interactions and Environments	Learn to support children's continual growth and development through making everyday moments intentional interactions to engage learning.
Observing and Documenting Development: An Overview	Learn to enhance childhood programming through insights of observing and documenting young children's development.
Outdoor Interactions & Environment for Preschoolers	Learn to create purposeful outdoor environments through strategies that foster children's safety, imagination, and development while they explore outdoors.
Physical Development	Explore strategies to encourage physical development in young children through this introductory course.

Course Title	Course Description
Responsive Caregiving and Relationships Building	Explore responsive caregiving and discover the benefits of fostering strong emotional relationships for children's growth and development.
Scaffolding Learning	Explore scaffolding techniques and discover strategies to guide children's growth and development.
Sensory Play and Sensory Fun with Toddlers	Learn about toddler development through sensory-rich experiences that promote learning and explore strategies to promote curiosity, regulation, and growth for young children.
Social and Emotional Development	Explore the foundations of social and emotional development through this introduction to ways to support children express feelings, build relationships, and cope with stress.
Teaching Dual Language Learners	Discover new strategies to support children learning a second language through this introductory course on dual language acquisition.
Teaching Safe and Healthy Routines with Preschoolers	Discover the importance of safe and healthy routines in supporting children's well-being and explore strategies to create predictable routines for daily success.
The Brain Architecture - Understanding Brain Development in Young Children	Discover the architecture of the brain and explore how experiences and relationships impact development.
Understanding Infant Development	Explore infant development and learn strategies to support important milestones during the first year of life.
Understanding Toddler Development	Explore the rapid development of the toddler years and learn strategies to support growth and learning.

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